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## **The Register, 2008-02-27**

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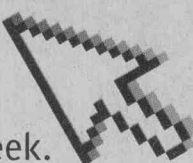
## AGGIES START SEASON WITH SWEEP OVER BUFFALO

C.J. Beatty homers three times in first four games • **PAGE 9**

## ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

**NCATREGISTER.com**

has all the stories that we just  
couldn't fit in the paper this week.



# THE A&T REGISTER

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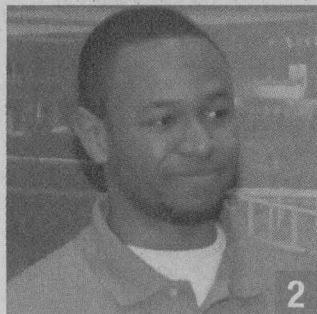
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2008

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME LXXXI, NO. 22

**NCATREGISTER.com**

### theYARD >>>



### AGGIES READY TO START CAREERS

Companies packed the Corbett Sports Center last Thursday to recruit the best and brightest Aggies to work for their businesses.

### theWORLD >>>

### SEAN BELL TRIAL BEGINS IN NYC

The trial of NYPD officers accused of firing 50 shots on a groom to be and wounding his friends the night before his wedding got underway. **PAGE 5**

### theBIZ >>>

### VISA TAKES RISK BY GOING PUBLIC

Visa takes a huge risk that may have huge rewards by taking their stock public. The company could make as much as \$19 billion if successful. **PAGE 6**

### theWORD >>>

### MOVING BEYOND THE "N" WORD

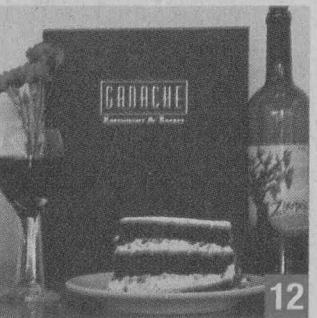
One word still sends chills up the spine of Black people everywhere but are we making things worse by allowing it to bother us? **PAGE 7**

### theSCORE >>>

### A 'RAM' SHAME!

The Aggies traveled to Winston-Salem on Saturday and came away with a 71-63 loss without star guard Steven Rush. **PAGE 8**

### theSCENE >>>



### SUGAR AND SPICE

A local bakery turned restaurant is combining its sweet past with an exquisite menu for a tasty future. **PAGE 8**

### WEATHER >>>



Hi: 43°  
Lo: 25°

**THURSDAY:** Sunny | High 47°

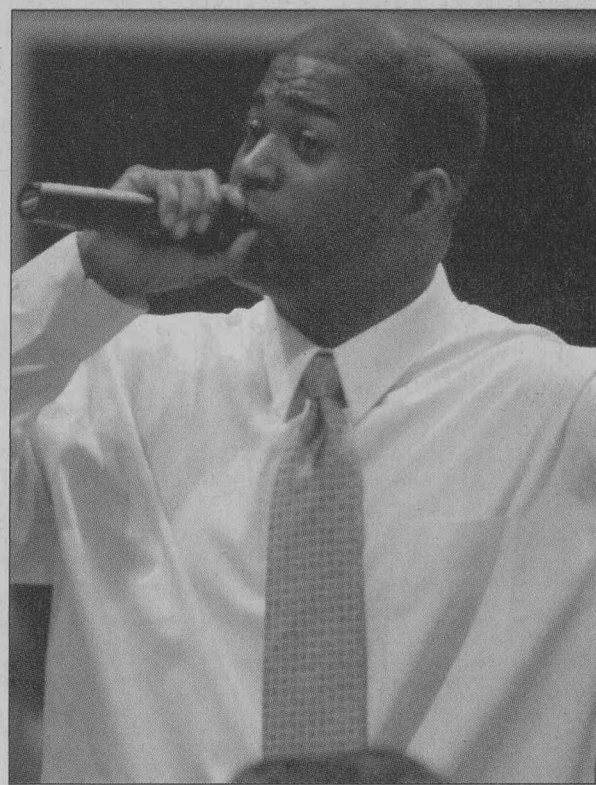
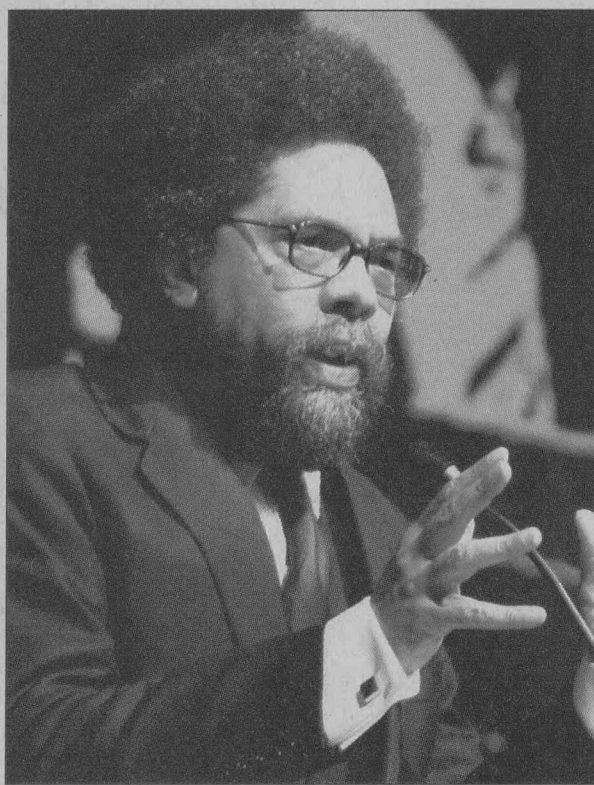
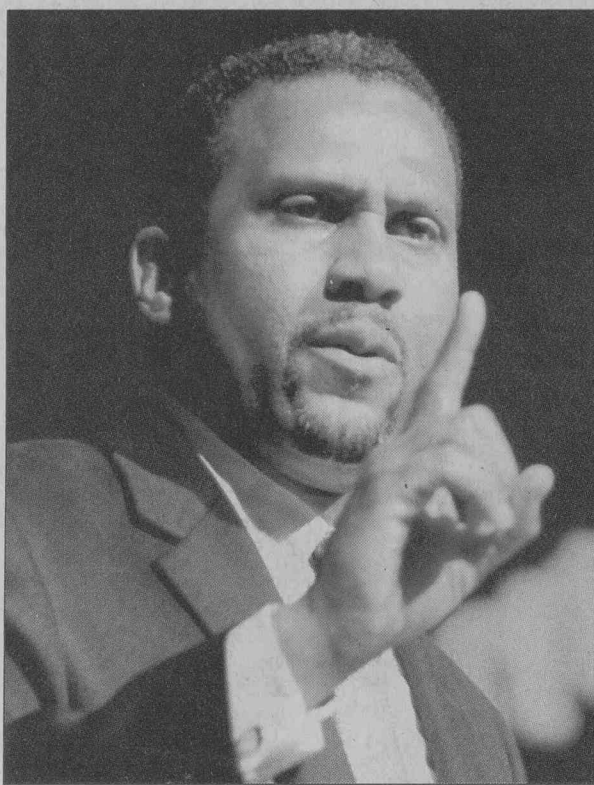
**FRIDAY:** Few Showers | High 57°

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theSCORE.....8  
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## 2008 HBCU THINK TANK • KERNER PLUS 40 REPORT

# THOUGHT PROVOKING



PHOTOS BY LEROY MIKELL • REGISTER

A COLLECTION OF MINDS: (From left) TV host and author Tavis Smiley, famed activist, author and professor Dr. Cornel West and rapper, actor and activist David Banner were just a few of the speakers during the 2008 HBCU Think Tank this week.

## Diverse group of minds come together in Aggieland

DANIEL HENDERSON  
Register Reporter

The community of Greensboro united Sunday afternoon in Harrison Auditorium to see famed intellectual Cornel West and national journalist Tavis Smiley who addressed issues of the 40-year anniversary of the Kerner Report.

Many students and alumni arrived two hours before the much-anticipated symposium began.

As the auditorium filled, the

guest also made their grand entrance receiving a warm welcome from the audience, while a video package featuring The 1968 Kerner Report operated on a big screen.

The topic, "The State of Black America," was the subject for West and Smiley in the event sponsored by the Institute of Advance Journalism and professor DeWayne Wickam, a USA Today columnist.

Both speakers voluntarily made their way from New Orleans to Greensboro after an in-

vituation from Wickam.

Smiley, organizer of the annual State of the Black Union and PBS talk show host, opened as the first speaker. He began by paying his respects to Wickam and his works with USA Today, before elaborating on the many issues of African Americans in the United States.

With many different concerns since the Kerner Report, Wickam expressing his disappointment of the amount of attention the government and media emphasize among the black

population, Smiley echoed that sentiment.

"We get one day a year on national television to discuss issues in the African American community," said Smiley.

"There is a reason we call it the State of the Black Union. Every year the president gives his state of the union address, and no matter if it is democrat or republican, we seem to get left out."

Smiley referenced the U.S.

See **THINK TANK** on Page 3

### THINK TANK COVERAGE

► West and Smiley on impact of the Kerner Report 40 years later.

**PAGE 3**

► David Banner keeps it real with Aggies on his personal struggles with fame, faith and the music business.

**PAGE 3**

## Skippping the beach for Katrina relief

■ Students head to Mississippi to build new home for hurricane affected family in need

KAREN THOMPSON  
Contributor

While many students take a much needed rest from their studies during spring break, 36 students and 7 faculty members from A&T, will be traveling to the Gulf Coast to do some good deeds.

The group will dedicate their time and energy to help a single-

mother and her family who were left devastated by Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi.

Under the leadership of Dr. Maria Palmer, coordinator of the Multi-Cultural Student Center and Guilford Tech carpentry instructor Bob Vosburg, students have been actively building a house since the beginning of the Fall 2007 semester.

The group hopes to deliver

the house to Pass Christian, Miss., a small township that was one of the hardest-hit areas during Hurricane Katrina.

The students have little to no experience with construction but the opportunity for students to volunteer in a project of such great magnitude.

On Saturday, a group of 30 will fly to Pass Christian, and the others will come by van and plane the following Monday to deliver and set up a three-bedroom "Katrina Cottage" for mother Daphne Jackson, her

son, and newborn daughter.

Jackson was newly engaged before the hurricane hit. She and her fiancée, Jordan, had set the date for their marriage and purchased a house on a section of land in Pass Christian.

When the hurricane came through, the house was totally destroyed. Shortly after, Jordan was killed in a car accident while in New Orleans working for a construction company.

Jackson faced a perfect storm of despair. Left with pregnant with no house, no husband, a

child and an elderly parent to care for, Jackson was forced to move her son and father into a FEMA trailer where they have lived since the wake of the hurricane.

Through all of her hardships, she continues to have an optimistic outlook on her future and that of her family as well.

She works for the Boys and Girls Club and is extremely active in her church directing the youth choir, serving in leader-

See **RELIEF** on Page 2

## Campus Harvest draws thousands

MARCUS THOMPSON  
Intern

College students from universities worldwide assembled in Durham on last Friday for the 2008 Campus Harvest Conference.

Campus Harvest is an annual Christian retreat designed particularly for college and high school students to strengthen their relationship with God.

The conference offers students a chance to participate in various seminars, prayer sessions, and even a party and concert over the course of a three-day weekend.

More than 1,500 students from over 200 campuses and 11 different nations, including Israel, Mexico and South Africa, participated in the conference this year. At least 30 students from A&T and UNCG were also in attendance for the event.

Students were charged with the task of locating and paying for temporary housing on their own.

While some were lucky enough to room with local friends and family, others had to put up extra cash in addition to the \$65 conference fee to stay in hotels. Piedmont International Church sponsored 14 of the

students from A&T and UNCG who needed financial support.

During the daily services, students assembled in the sanctuary of King's Park International Church, where various speakers like Debe Winans-Lowe, of the famed gospel family the Winans, Lynette Lewis, author of Climbing the Ladder in Stilettos, and Steve Hollander, director of Campus Harvest, ministered and gave personal testimonies about chastity, leadership, and maintaining faith in God.

In the afternoons, undergrad-

See **HARVEST** on Page 2

### GETTING PRETTY

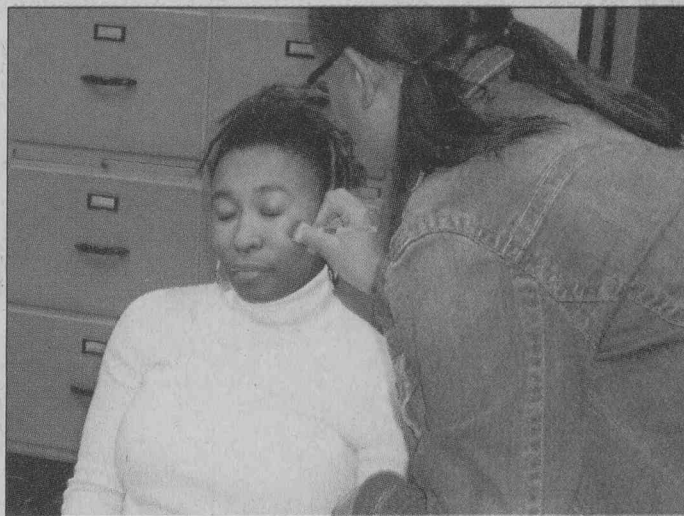


PHOTO BY BRITTNEY HANNAH • REGISTER

Clinique professionals spent time instructing some Aggie women on the nuances of proper makeup application. Employees also shared other skin care tips with students. **MORE ON PAGE 11**



## theBLOTTER

**Arrest**  
2/15/08, 8:57 p.m.  
Cooper Hall

A male student was arrested on various charges to include drug and vandalism. The male was transported to jail, processed and held under a \$7000 secured bond. There were no injuries.

**Arrest**  
2/18/08, 5:35 p.m.  
Curtis Hall

A female staff member reported that a male student, who had lost his housing and has been banned from all residence halls, was in another student's room playing video games. During the investigation, UPD officers observed marijuana in the suspect's pocket.

The subject was arrested for trespassing and possessing marijuana. The student was transported to the Guilford County Jail. Case will be referred to Student Affairs for further disposition.

**Harassment**  
2/18/08, 2:00 p.m.  
Riverwalk

A female student reported that another female student was harassing her by calling her phone and hanging up. The suspect female came to the victim's residence and started a verbal altercation.

The victim was advised on the procedures for filing charges with the County Magistrate. No charges have been filed at this time.

**Affray**  
2/19/08, 4:41 p.m.  
Moore Gym

UPD officers were called to Moore Gym. Officers found that a male and a female student were having a verbal altercation that became physical. The male student reports ably taking and throwing the female student's keys on the roof of Moore Gym.

Both students were advised to go to the Guilford County Magistrate's office to file charges. EMS was not required in this case.

**Larceny**  
2/19/08, 2:55 p.m.  
Webb Hall

A male staff member reported that someone had stolen his state issued cell phone. The staff member stated that the phone was in his desk located in Webb Hall Room 11.

The phone was valued at approximately \$125. There are no suspects or witnesses at this time.

— Compiled by Tiffany Adams

## theBUZZ

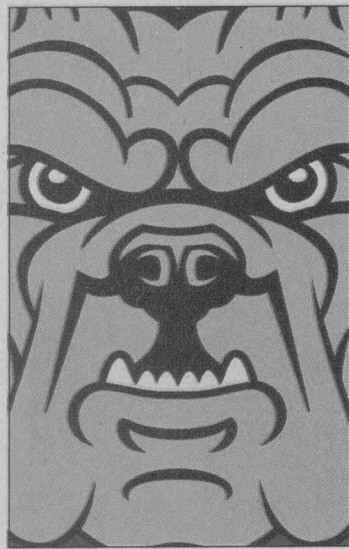
### Senior Class trip planned for Atlanta in April

The first annual Senior Class trip is scheduled for April 4th to April 6th in Atlanta.

The cost is \$120 and the deadline for payment is March 1st but Senior Class president Kendra Arrington guarantees networking opportunities with A&T alums in the area. The trip includes hotel accommodations, shopping, touring and clubbing.

### THE A&T REGISTER returns March 12th...

In the meantime, be sure to follow breaking news on **ncatregister.com** and check out our podcasts and blogs for more news.



# Aggies aid in Gulf Coast hurricane relief

**RELIEF** From page 1

ship positions, and is a member of the usher board. It is no doubt that the Jackson family is eagerly awaiting the arrival of their house in just one week.

The many frustrating details of this trip has left Palmer stressed but very hopeful for what is about to be accomplished.

"What I am going through right now is nothing to be compared to the lives that will be changed during this trip. Many details of the trip have been ironed out, but there are still many more that are waiting to be taken care of.

One of those details is the cost of materials. The cost of the roof and trusses has been greatly reduced as a gift for the trip, but the remaining price still sits at \$2300.

Since the trip is being funded solely by sponsors and donations, these prices can seem

at times to be insurmountable."

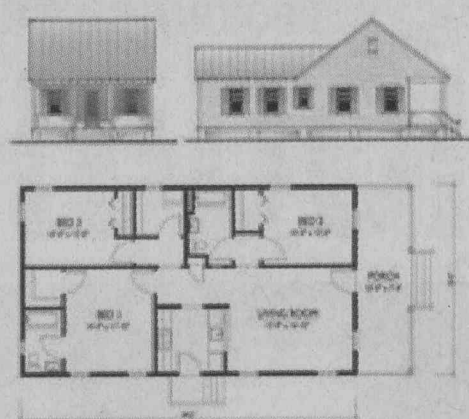
The traveling expenses alone for the trip exceed \$12,000. The students will stay in a volunteer house at \$20 each, with breakfast and dinner included.

Much of their traveling expenses were paid through donations and sponsors like those from the Division of Student Affairs and former Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, Henry Frye who also sponsored three students.

This will be no vacation or walk in the park for these students. They each have their work cut out for them.

Students attending are eager and ready to go, like Will Guilford, a sophomore Spanish major. "I want to help because I see that nothing is really being done.

I know it will be a lot of work, but we'll have fun as well because we are doing something for a worthy cause," said Guilford.



**BUILDING DREAMS:** Students work to build a home for a family ravaged by Hurricane Katrina in Pass Christian, Miss. They hope to deliver the "Katrina Cottage" to them over Spring Break.

# Companies reach out at Career Fair

**MICHAEL JONES**  
Contributor

Business attire, name tags, resumes, information packets, displays, business cards, give away gifts, hand shakes, and lots of people. This is what took place in Corbett Sports Center for the spring Career Fair.

From the beginning to the end, students flooded the gym talking with representatives, learning about companies, handing resumes to representatives and trying to land internships or employment. Students went from display to display of each respective company, getting to know what they were about and understanding what they were looking for.

Representatives such as John Smith, of Dollar General, broke down exactly what he was looking for. "We're looking for students in Business or Logistics. We've had real good success here at A&T," he said. "We want them to know the real world is hard work. I think the benefits of events such as these are its opportunities to get out there. It's good exposure for graduating students."

As beneficial as this was for the students, representatives felt the same way about the event. As the Career Fair was getting under way and employers were just finishing setting up, Beth Duncan, representative of Belden, saw what this was doing for students and what she wanted out of them.

"We want students with

the desire and drive to go far," she said. "We think doing this gives us the chance to meet the student before an interview and it gives the student an opportunity to look at a lot of companies at one time."

The line lengthened outside the inner gym. Later into the day more students started coming to the desk to sign in, get a name tag, and grabbing a map to better tour the fair. The gym was filled with all kinds of students with different majors and goals talking with people they felt they could succeed with. The main goal was clear for junior Therman Greene.

"I'm really trying to get employment for the summer," he said. "That's my main goal. It was a good turnout. It's a good opportunity for jobs and more experience in your field. It's very diverse and there's something for all majors, even military."

Although it was diverse, with over 100 companies there, some students were having a little trouble appealing to the representatives. Freshman Marketing major, Trevon Christopher said it was hard for him because of his classification.

"It isn't really a lot for my classification but I'm doing well. I think I did really well with Dominion," he said confident. "They were really impressed with my resume. With me being a freshman they didn't expect my work experience to be as high as it was. Hopefully I'll land an interview and work during the summer."

**HARVEST** From page 1

uates and high school students were separated from graduates, upperclassmen, and campus ministers to attend individual seminars at the Sheraton Resort Hotel.

Participants could choose any two seminars to attend during the day. Seminars focused on themes such as personal relationships, "finding your calling," securing finances, and student ministry.

"Every year God moves in a different way and this year it was about me moving out of my comfort zone," said Delisha Brown, a UNCG junior communications major from Jacksonville, N.C., as she re-

flected on the leadership seminar she attended in the conference.

"It was my third time and every year there's something different, but it is always appropriate to what I'm going through, my current situation," said Jessica Welsh, a senior electrical engineering major at A&T from Pennsauken, N.J.

An assortment of musical talent from churches all over the country kept students jumping out of their seats. Student performers from various churches also kept the entertainment going with skits and dance performances.

Students from each HBCU present were also called onstage in a presentation of the



Senior electrical engineering major Dimitri Smith makes his rounds at the Spring Career Fair last Thursday in the Corbett Sports Center.

It was quite a busy day if you were a student or employer. One after the other students were taken into a brief glimpse of the company they might be working for. Although this was the time for students to be on their A game, you could feel a sense of confidence and readiness. But it wasn't the case for all students. Junior Tiffany Payton admitted to being a little jittery.

"I'm just so nervous," she said. "I thought I was going to come in and beast it. It's just a lot of companies here and my friend was supposed to walk here with me. It's not really a lot here for Political Science majors though. I'm just really hoping to talk to all the companies on my list and possibly get an internship."

Once students were done talking with their prospective new employers, they were leaving with information papers, little gifts, and a new insight as to what they had to

do to meet their goals. They may have acquired a referral or found a way to make themselves look more appeasable to the company. Employers now have a pile of resumes and soon will be bringing in a new generation of workers. Representatives were satisfied with the outcome and even more pleased with the students. None was more impressed than Cox Communications representative, Monica Ruffin.

"I am thoroughly pleased with the Career Fair, as well as the students," she said. "This is an extraordinary function. What impresses me most is the organization of the students. They're equipped. They're dressed for the part, they already have knowledge about the business, know what questions they want to ask, and I love it. Even when we're joking around they maintain there professionalism. There was great communication in put-

advancement of the African American culture.

In addition to the inspirational church services, students were also able to engage in global networking and gain insight into other cultures. Many students socialized in their free time, making sure to trade phone numbers and names for Facebook and MySpace contacts.

Travis Jones, a junior economics major from Winston-Salem, said, "It was great seeing the diversity of the other cultures because you saw the different ways everyone was after God."

Throughout the weekend, veteran participants of the Campus Harvest experience

encouraged first-timers of the event to get saved and baptized during the conference. However, even the veterans took something new from their experience this year.

"God really took the scales off my eyes," Kevin Jones, a senior electrical engineering major from East Palo Alto, Ca. said. "It was a revelation. You can always overdo it in the natural, but in God you can never overdo it."

More nations and students are expected to come out for the 2009 Campus Harvest Conference and campus ministers and conference leaders are also planning to improve the program for upcoming years.

WEDNESDAY

27

**Accounting Information and Planning with Roger Jefferies, President of J&L Financial Services**  
Craig Hall 128  
2:30 p.m. — 3:30 p.m., FREE

**Smart Investments: How to Invest Your Money Wisely**  
McNair Lecture Room 2  
6 p.m.

**Lip Sync vs. Karaoke**  
Memorial Student Union  
Exhibit Hall  
7 p.m., FREE

THURSDAY

28

**Red Cross Blood Drive**  
Memorial Student Union  
Exhibit Hall  
10 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.

**Leadership Success Seminar: Joe L. Dudley, CEO Dudley Products, Inc.**  
NCB A218 Auditorium  
4 p.m., FREE

FRIDAY

29

**2008 Greek Probates**  
Corbett Sports Center  
5p.m. — 11 p.m.

**Softball vs. Mississippi Valley State**  
Lady Aggies Softball Complex  
2 p.m.

SATURDAY

1

**Softball vs. UMES**  
Lady Aggies Softball Complex  
10 a.m.

**Softball vs. WSSU**  
Lady Aggies Softball Complex  
2 p.m.

SUNDAY

2

**Softball vs. TBA**  
Lady Aggies Softball Complex  
TBA

MONDAY

3

**SPRING BREAK OFFICIALLY BEGINS!**  
March 3rd — March 9th

TUESDAY

4

**Softball vs. UNC Wilmington (Doubleheader)**  
Lady Aggies Softball Complex  
2 p.m.

**BE SAFE OVER SPRING BREAK!**

FROM ALL OF US AT  
**THE A&T REGISTER**

## THE A&T REGISTER

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## Banner speaks candidly

Students respond to his splendidly ghetto approach

KAREN THOMPSON  
Contributor

The 2008 HBCU Think Tank got a dose of real in its second night as rapper, actor and activist David Banner was the guest speaker.

Banner, who recently spoke in front of Congress on behalf of rap music, has used his celebrity as the vehicle for his philanthropic efforts.

After Hurricane Katrina, Banner was at the forefront in relief work. Partnering with other artist to raise money and help those who suffered great tragedy, especially those often overlooked in his homestate of Miss.

"Katrina hit Mississippi, the eye of the storm didn't hit New Orleans. New Orleans got the residuals of Katrina."

Banner has also set up a scholarship fund that helps students further their education and gives a percentage of what he earns annually to his home community in Mississippi.

Last year, he gave over \$30,000 and the year before, \$50,000 to people in his home state.

"The truth is I can do the music that I feel like I should be doing but that music probably won't give me the opportunity to do the real stuff I do in the hood," said Banner.

David Banner was definitely not at A&T for a concert; instead, he had serious topics to discuss with the over 300 students who attended.

Banner's style of lecture was very unusual, and many students were caught by surprise at his "in your face" method of speaking. Needless to say, Banner had everyone's attention from beginning to end.

Much of the discussion was



Banner

centered on the black race and the issues that blacks have faced for many years and still deal with to this day, such as relationships between men

and women, the hip-hop culture, the reality of a college education at an HBCU, religion, selling drugs, and the role of leaders like Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton.

He was also concerned with the cycle that he has seen much of his race caught in.

"If you notice most of us are still trapped in the slave mentality."

He believes that slavery has never really ended, but became modern with the times. Instead of black people living in the old shacks and the out-houses of the 1700 and 1800's, they are living in nicer one and two-story homes, yet slavery still exists in their minds and in their bank accounts.

There were some women at the event who were concerned with the way they felt black men treated black women in general. Banner's reply was heavy on the women by telling them that they know a "dog" when they meet him for the first time.

"God gives us all something in our hearts that will let us know if something or someone is not right, yet we do it anyway."

When it blows up in our faces later on, we have the nerve to want to blame it on the other person; even though we knew from the very beginning what we were getting ourselves into."

This, of course, sparked many emotions between people

Some people sided with Banner and others didn't.

Banner was also concerned with black activists Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton, whom he believes are not leaders in the black community.

He says that they make a living off of blacks being discriminated against and they want the discrimination to continue so that they will continue to have a paycheck. Banner believes that as a whole, African Americans do not have a leader, or even a sense of culture.

"We know who the white people's founding fathers are," he said, "but we don't know who our founding fathers are as a black people, what country or tribe we came from in Africa, or better yet who our great, great grandfathers were."

Banner urged the A&T students to bring about a change in their society, by breaking the cycles that black people have been engulfed in for so long, such as financial debt and hatred toward one another.

"Remember Willie Lynch's letter," he said, "and realize what is going on in our society." He also admonished students to come to class prepared to ask questions and learn everything that they can.

"The teachers work for you. You pay them their checks, so make them get their money's worth and teach you something," he said. "If you don't, you're letting them get off easily and you're not learning nothing."

Banner's last words dealt with the importance of voting and the things the vote can make possible. Before ending the discussion Banner said, "Power will never invest in poor people unless poor people invest in power."

## West and Smiley test minds early in major intellectual week on campus

THINK TANK From page 1

being more complicated than it was 40 years after Kerner's Report, due to the diversity of the population.

"We live in the most multicultural America ever," said Smiley. "So if you think we had trouble trying to navigate racial segregation back then, the black and white has now turned into black and brown and become more complicated."

The equation is more complicated and that is what your generation young folk are going to have to wrestle with."

West commenced the podium in a more humorous note, claiming to touch points on Smiley's speech after applauding him for correctly addressing the right issues. After insinuating that his speech would be brief, he started to lecture.

"Justice is what love looks like in public," said West. "So when you read the Kerner's

Report, you want to discern if there is a steadfast commitment to the well being of black people."

He also lectured on the significance of African-Americans staying true to themselves and the effects it has on society.

"Donnie Coltrane didn't raise the question what do others want to hear from me, but rather if I dig deep enough in my own soul they are going to feel it, because I'm going to be relating and connecting to them," said West.

"If we are true about ourselves, there is a lot of pain and suffering in doing so."

Sunday's action concluded with former NAACP leader Joe Madison, a current national radio personality.

The Washington D.C. native was asked to replace former journalist Nathan McCall, who was originally scheduled as the first keynote speaker, but cancelled out after suffering from flu-like symptoms over the weekend.

Madison used his sense of humor to stress the importance of A&T students to understand their role in society.

"There are three types of people in this world," said Madison.

"Those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who ask what the hell just happened. We've got to speak truth to power by taking action and students, the movement is in your hands."

Audience members were allowed to interrogate the speakers at the conclusion of seminars. SGA Vice President of External Affairs Marcus Bass questioned West about decreasing the gap between progressing and declining African Americans.

"We are who we are because someone loved us and sacrificed for us," said West.

"We have to decided who we are in terms of who we are going to serve, what we serve, and who we attend to."

## Think Tank offers mixed bag of opinions

BRITTNEY HANNAH  
Contributor

The 2008 HBCU Think Tank held Tuesday began by addressing the Kerner plus 40 Report. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the 1968 document that investigated urban riots in the U.S.

It was released after seven months of investigation by the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders and got its name from the commission chairman, Illinois' governor, Otto Kerner.

The Kerner Report is famous for concluding that the U.S. was moving toward two societies. One black, one white-separate and unequal.

An experienced panel of former chief justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, Henry Frye, president of Bennett College Julianne Malveaux, Pulitzer-prize winner Les Payne and former director of NAACP Legal Defense Fund, spoke valued opinions on how important the Kerner Report is and how it has influenced the black community.

Later Dr. Teresa Styles, a professor in the Journalism and Mass Communication department, as well as a well accomplished journalist, moderated a discussion about the color-line between white and black people.

President of SGA, David Street, expressed that the color

line in the 21st century is no longer black and white. "The color line of our generation is now green."

Street referred to a comment made by the musician/activist, David Banner the night before. "I was down in New Orleans helping out after Katrina but Jay-Z probably made the biggest impact... He had Reebok deliver thousands of pairs of shoes. Now who do you think people will remember the most," said Banner.

President of the A&T chapter of National Association of Black Journalist, Kia Godsby countered by saying "the color line may be more green now, but we as a people need to learn more about money and how to manage it."

Coming up on an election year many believe Barack Obama will be the inspiration we need and lead us into reform.

"Obama inspires me to be more politically involved. He symbolizes erasing the color line," said Bennett College SGA president, Tiffany Lindsay.

The Think Tank wrapped up with actor and producer better known as the father on Sister, Sister, Tim Reid. In a solemn yet comical demeanor, he addressed the issue of Hollywood's ill-mannered portrayal of black people and how it has contributed to racial divide.

"We are looking in the

wrong direction for weapons of mass destruction. We need to look right here in the U.S at the media," said Reid.

Reid brought along a powerful power-point presentation that gave insight to Hollywood's exploitation of black people since the dawn of time. The show begins with the definition of the "Holy Trinity."

The Trinity consists of Rastus, the face of Cream of Wheat, Uncle Ben and Aunt Jemima. "After Reconstruction, white people were pretty ticked off so they came up with minstrel shows and the Holy Trinity to demean us," said Reid.

"We were doing so many powerful things such as playing golf and swimming, yet this is the image they gave us."

Reid's power-point and speech grabbed the attention of the audience who seemed to be full of Mass Communication majors. He ended the seminar by responding to an audience members question of "Being that we are so influenced by hip-hop culture, what do you think it can do to bring about change?" said Junior Drew Bullock.

Reid responded by saying "Hip-Hop is dead. Not so much in the since of lyrics but the music industry is no longer making as much money. So it is up to you as young people to create a creative new thing to change things in the community."

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## Trial begins for officers charged in shooting death

### NYPD fired 50 shots on groom-to-be hours before his wedding day

COLLEEN LONG  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — On the night before his wedding, Sean Bell went to a strip club called Kalua Cabaret for a bachelor party.

As he and two friends left early in the morning, they were confronted by undercover officers investigating reports of drugs and prostitution.

The rest of the story varies depending on who's telling it, but every version ends the same way: Bell dying and his friends wounded in a barrage of 50 police bullets outside the club.

Bell, 23, was killed Nov. 25, 2006, hours before he was to marry Nicole Paultre, the mother of his two children.

The three police officers indicted in the shooting go on trial Monday in a case that has sparked protests and debate over excessive force and police conduct in New York.

Detective Michael Oliver fired 31 shots, including the one that killed Bell. Detective Giscard Isnora squeezed off 11 rounds, and Detective Marc Cooper fired four times. Oliver

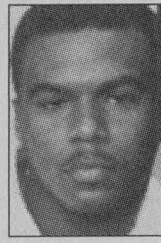
and Isnora have pleaded not guilty to manslaughter; Cooper has pleaded not guilty to reckless endangerment.

Bell's fiancée is expected to be the first witness, and she said she plans to be in court every day.

"I feel like I need to know. I need to know why this happened," said Paultre Bell, who had her name legally changed after her fiancé's death. "I wake up one day and my world is turned upside down. I have to know why this happened; my family deserves to know."

Police union officials and defense lawyers have said the detectives believed Bell and his friends were going to get a gun, though no weapon was found.

The officers opened fire after the car the three men were in lurched forward, bumped Isnora and slammed into an unmarked police minivan, authorities said. The detectives waived their



Bell

right to a jury trial after an appeals court turned down a defense bid to move the case out of New York City. State Supreme Court Judge Arthur Cooperman will hear the case by himself.

Without a jury to sway, the trial will likely be less theatrical, but court officials still expect big crowds from both sides and a large media presence in the ceremonial hall at Queens State Supreme Court that seats about 190.

Bell's wounded friends, Trent Benefield and Joseph Guzman, were to testify as witnesses and won't be in the courtroom audience.

Guzman still has four bullets in his body and was disabled by the shooting, according to his lawyer, Sanford Rubenstein. Benefield has a rod in his leg where bones were shattered.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys did not want to comment in the days leading up to the trial.

Legal experts said the absence of a jury might help the defendants defuse some of the case's volatility, especially with a 20-year veteran like Cooper-

man on the bench.

"They don't want to take a chance on a compromised verdict," said Eugene O'Donnell, a professor of police studies at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. "The thought is, a judge can simply stare out into the abyss, bite the bullet and do what has to be done."

While jurors generally believe that police officers are out to help the public, they're also likely to have sympathy for shooting victims. The result can be a conviction on lesser charges.

Cooperman, 74, has experience trying high-profile police cases. In 1986, he presided over the trial of officers accused of torturing a teenage drug suspect with a stun gun. The officers were convicted and sentenced to six years in prison. He has also presided over trials in which police were the victims.

Oliver and Isnora face up to 25 years in prison if convicted; Cooper faces up to a year on the lesser endangerment count.

Michael Palladino, president of the Detectives' Endowment Association, said negative pre-

trial publicity prompted the detectives to ask for a bench trial. "The jury pool was poisoned," he said.

He cited an advertising campaign featuring Bell's fiancée as a model for Rocawear, a clothing line co-founded by hip-hop mogul Jay-Z, that began running just days before the trial.

Palladino said it was a clear attempt to manipulate the public; Guzman's lawyer, Rubenstein, said it had nothing to do with the trial but refused to say how much she was paid.

The detectives' union has argued that the officers were just doing their jobs.

"I have said from the very beginning the shooting was tragic," Palladino said. "But they didn't act with criminality in their hearts and in their minds, and I think the proper arena for this is civil court."

The trial isn't expected to cause the kind of widespread outrage that occurred after the 1999 killing of Amadou Diallo, an unarmed African immigrant hit by 19 of the 41 shots fired by police in the Bronx.

Many New Yorkers, espe-

cially blacks, felt then-Mayor Rudy Giuliani wasn't compassionate enough about the Diallo case, and said the shooting spotlighted racist police practices. Thousands marched in protest after the officers were acquitted.

In contrast, current Mayor Michael Bloomberg said in the days after Bell's death that he felt the shooting was "excessive." He was praised by residents but criticized by law enforcement for speaking out before the facts were in.

"The thing that's missing in this case is that level of vitriol for City Hall," O'Donnell said. "The mayor and the police commissioner have credibility in the city, specifically in the black community."

Plus, while Bell and his friends were black, the officers involved are Hispanic, black and white.

"The police department is way more diverse now," O'Donnell said. "The old story of a bunch of white cops in an all-white department completely insensitive to the city is not true today."

## Clinton-Obama debate intensifies

DAVID ESPO  
Associated Press

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama clashed over trade, health care and the war in Iraq Tuesday night in a crackling debate at close quarters one week before a pivotal group of primaries.

Charges of negative campaign tactics were high on the program, too.

Clinton said Obama's campaign had recently sent out mass mailings with false information about her health care proposal, adding, "it is almost as though the health insurance companies and the Republicans wrote it."

When it was his turn to speak, Obama said Clinton's campaign has "constantly sent out negative attacks on us ...

We haven't whined about it because I understand that's the nature of these campaigns."

The tone was polite yet pointed, increasingly so as the 90-minute session wore on, a reflection of the stakes in a race in which Obama has won 11 straight primaries and caucuses and Clinton is in desperate need of a comeback.

Clinton also said as far as she knew her campaign had nothing to do with circulating a photograph of Obama wearing a white turban and a wrap-around white robe presented to him by elders in Wajir, in northeastern Kenya.

"I take Senator Clinton at her word that she knew nothing about the photo," Obama said.

In one curious moment, Clinton said, "In the last several debates I seem to get the first question all the time. I don't

mind. I'll be happy to field it. I just find it curious if anybody saw "Saturday Night Live," maybe we should ask Barack if he's comfortable and needs another pillow."

In its episode last Saturday, the comedy show ran a feature portraying the news media as going easy on Obama, and a questioner asking at one point if he was comfortable and needed another pillow.

The two rivals, the only survivors of a grueling primary season, sat about a foot apart at a table on stage at Cleveland State University. It was the 20th debate of the campaign, 10 months to the day after the first.

The race was far different in April 2007, Clinton the front-runner by far. Now Obama holds that place, both in terms of contests and delegates won. The two square off next Tuesday in primaries in Ohio, Texas, Rhode Island and Vermont, with 370 delegates at stake.

Both Obama and Clinton were on the receiving end of pointed questions from Tim Russert of NBC News, one of two moderators for the event.

Asked whether he was waffling on his pledge of agreeing to take federal funds for the fall campaign, Obama said he was still contesting the primaries.

"If I am the nominee I will sit down with John McCain and make sure we come up with a system that is fair to both sides," he said. Obama could presumably raise far more money than the federal system provides, but accepting government money precludes that.

The equivalent question to Clinton concerned the income tax returns that she and her husband, former President Clinton, file jointly.

"I will release my tax returns," Clinton said, if she becomes the Democratic nominee. She then added she might do so "even earlier," but not before Tuesday's primary.

The two rivals also debated NAFTA, the free trade agreement with Canada and Mexico that is wildly unpopular with blue-collar workers whose votes are critical in any Democratic primary in Ohio.

Neither one said they were ready to withdraw from the agreement, although both said they would use the threat of withdrawal to pressure Mexico to make changes.

"I have said I would renegotiate NAFTA," said Clinton. "I will say to Mexico that we will opt out of NAFTA unless we renegotiate it."

Obama said Clinton has tried to have it both ways, touting the trade deal in farm states where it's popular while find-

ing fault with it in places like Ohio.

"This is something I have been consistent about," said Obama, who said he went to the American Farm Bureau Federation to tout his opposition and used it as an issue in his 2004 Senate campaign.

"That conversation I had with the Farm Bureau, I was not ambivalent at all," said Obama.

On the war, both candidates denounced President Bush's record on Iraq, then restated long-held disagreements over which of them was more opposed.

Clinton said she and Obama had virtually identical voting records on the war since he came to the Senate in 2005.

The former first lady voted in 2002 to authorize the war, at a time when Obama was not yet in Congress. Asked whether she'd like to have the vote back, she said, "Absolutely. I've said that many times."

Obama tried to use the issue to rebut charges that he is ill-prepared to become commander in chief.

"The fact is that Senator Clinton often says that she is ready on day one, but, in fact, she was ready to give in to George Bush on day one on this critical issue," Obama said.

Clinton also stumbled at one point as she tried to pronounce the name of Dmitry Medvedev, Russia's first deputy prime minister, who is expected to win an election to succeed President Vladimir Putin on Sunday. "Whatever," she said after several attempts to demonstrate she knew his name.

Obama also sought to distance himself from an endorsement from Nation of Islam Minister Louis Farrakhan, the controversial Chicago-based minister who has made numerous anti-Semitic comments in the past.

Obama said he hadn't sought the endorsement, and that he had denounced the remarks.

Clinton interjected at one point, saying that in her initial Senate campaign in New York in 2000, she was supported by a group with virulent anti-Semitic views.

"I rejected it, and said it would not be anything I would be comfortable with," she said. Clinton said rejecting support was different from denouncing it, an obvious jab at Obama.

He responded by saying he didn't see the difference, since Farrakhan hadn't done anything except declare his support. But given Clinton's comments, he said, "I happily concede the point and I would reject and denounce."

The audience applauded at that.

## Rice orders Hill to stay in China for talks on N. Korea

MATTHEW LEE  
Associated Press

**TOKYO (AP)** — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice ordered her top Asia diplomat to stay in China on Wednesday to look at fresh ways of unblocking the stalled effort to get North Korea to abandon nuclear weapons.

Rice instructed Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill to remain in Beijing to study with Chinese officials new ideas of moving the process ahead, instead of accompanying her to Japan.

"He's continuing the discussions that we had with the Chinese ... on how to make progress in the six-party talks, how to get to a place where everyone is executing the obligations that they have undertaken," she told reporters in Tokyo.

"We were having good discussions and it seemed like a good idea for Chris to stay behind and continue those discussions," Rice said, replying with a flat and firm "no" when asked if she would elaborate.

Hill had planned to travel with Rice on all three legs of her Asian tour that has been dominated by the North Korea issue. She has visited South Korea in addition to China and Japan.

Rice also expressed hope that the recent arrest of a U.S. Marine on suspicion of raping a 14-year-old girl on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa would not damage Washington's relations with Tokyo.

The arrest and a series of other damaging criminal accusations against some of the 50,000 American troops based in Japan have stirred anger at the U.S. military presence, which critics blame for crime, noise and pollution.

"We certainly hope that there will not be lasting effects, it's a long-standing and strong alliance," she said. "Our concern right now is to see that justice is done, to get to the bottom if it and our concern is for the girl and her family."

Japanese officials have demanded further step by U.S. forces to control their troops. The Americans last week restricted thousands of military personnel and their family indefinitely to bases, homes and work places, and pledged to



Rice

review anti-sexual assault guidelines and training programs.

The North Korea issue has dominated Rice's trip. U.S. State De-

partment spokesman Sean McCormack told reporters that Hill was working on proposals put forward Tuesday by Rice and Chinese President Hu Jintao to jump-start the denuclearization talks.

He refused to say what those ideas were. The six-party talks, are hosted by China, and include the United States, Japan, Russia and the two Koreas.

"We'll see if it leads somewhere," McCormack said.

Rice said Tuesday that China and the U.S. were looking at ways to "synchronize" the actions the North must take to meet its obligations, and the benefits it is to receive for those measures.

Hill does not plan to meet directly with North Korean officials during his extended stay in Beijing, where he will remain for at least another day, McCormack said.

On Tuesday, Rice won assurances from China that it would use its influence on North Korea to help with the denuclearization process.

While in China, Rice reiterated Washington's demand that Pyongyang provide a "complete and full declaration" of its nuclear programs. North Korea says it has already provided such a list.

Although North Korea shut down its main nuclear reactor last year, American researchers who visited the complex earlier this month reported that officials there said they had slowed the removal of fuel rods. They said that was because the United States and other nations have fallen behind in supplying aid promised under the disarmament deal.

While Pyongyang maintains a large diplomatic mission in Beijing, Rice ruled out talks with North Korean officials during her stay in China, saying such a meeting was neither warranted nor could be of any use in the current circumstances.

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# Is visa everywhere you want to be?

MADLEN READ

Associated Press Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** Stocks are shaky, credit is tight, the economy may be tipping into a recession. Not the best of times to be going to the markets for what could be the largest initial public offering in U.S. history.

That's the gamble Visa is taking as it gave details Monday about an IPO that could raise up to nearly \$19 billion: If it works, it could be an encouraging sign to the stock markets and may even help loosen the credit knot. While Visa's IPO will have little direct effect on its cardholders, the banks that issue Visa cards are expected to see a total windfall of more than \$10 billion — which might keep them from pulling back credit lines further and pushing rates higher.

"That's a good thing for the banks, and a good thing for consumers. It might help ease the credit crisis a bit," said Ben Woolsey, marketing director at the card information Web site CreditCards.com. Banks have suffered huge losses tied to defaults on subprime housing loans and are gearing up for more as consumer credit deteriorates. JPMorgan Chase & Co. — which has a 23 percent stake in Visa — stands to gain the most. The more cash-strapped Citigroup Inc. and Bank of America Corp. are also Visa stockholders.

Visa said Monday in a Se-

curities and Exchange Commission filing that it will offer 406 million shares at \$37 to \$42 each, following its rival MasterCard in shifting from being a privately held interest to a publicly traded company. If there is enough demand for Visa stock, underwriters will have the option to buy an extra 40.6 million shares.

The San Francisco-based company would not say exactly when it planned to float its shares, but IPO research firm Renaissance Capital, based in Greenwich, Conn., said it believes the offering will price on March 19 to begin trading March 20.

Demand for IPOs has been incredibly weak recently, reflecting nervousness among investors about placing bets in untested waters.

Last year at this time, IPO returns were outperforming the broader stock market, and now, they're underperforming. The number of companies going public has dwindled to 18 so far this year from 34 at the same time in 2007, according to Renaissance Capital, which operates IPOhome.com.

A robust Visa IPO "could be the spark that is needed," said Kathy Smith, a principal at Renaissance Capital. "It shows that there is a belief that investors want to put new capital to work in this company."

Visa expects to see high demand for its stock despite

the housing-led credit squeeze that is threatening consumers' spending and their ability to keep up with debt payments.

Like MasterCard Inc., Visa is a card processor — not a lender — so it makes its money through fees from the banks issuing its cards and the merchants accepting them. And like MasterCard, Visa could see more struggling consumers increasingly use their cards for such high-cost necessities as health care, food and gasoline, which could boost the fees Visa earns.

Delaying the IPO process would "be like turning around a massive steamship, and could raise speculation about what's wrong," Woolsey said. The company has been planning for an IPO this year since a filing with the SEC in June.

Another possible reason to get the IPO done this spring is this summer's Olympic Games in Beijing, for which Visa is an official sponsor and the exclusive credit card provider.

Visa will be the last of the major U.S. card companies to go public. MasterCard raised \$2.39 billion in its IPO nearly two years ago. Its shares have risen fivefold since then and are trading at more than \$200 each, but have fallen more than 5.5 percent since the beginning of the month.

Discover Financial Services LLC became publicly traded last July, and since then has seen its shares tumble. But Discover,

like American Express, is a true card lender. The responsibility for Visa and MasterCard cardholders' debt, in contrast, is held by the banks that issue them.

For their most recent quarters, Discover posted a loss and AmEx reported a 10 percent drop in earnings while MasterCard posted a huge increase in profit.

That Visa could end up launching the country's biggest IPO is "not surprising," Woolsey said. "They're the dominant payment player, with well over 50 percent of the global payment credit card volume."

In the United States, Visa is the largest card company by market share, and has a strong presence in other countries, where many people are just starting to use plastic instead of cash. The 44 billion transactions totaling about \$3.2 trillion that Visa processed in 2006 nearly doubled the number of transactions by MasterCard, its biggest competitor.

Visa boasts the world's biggest retail electronic payments network. According to its filing, as of Sept. 30, banks and other customers said they had issued 1.5 billion Visa cards.

The latest Nilson Report on card companies said that in 2006, Visa had 44 percent of the U.S. market share in cards and 48 percent of the U.S. market share in debit cards — an even faster-growing market than credit cards. Visa's IPO, even if

it prices at the low end of the estimated range, would surpass the \$10.6 billion AT&T Wireless raised in 2000 when it went public. And if demand is strong enough, it could be almost as big as the two largest past deals combined — AT&T's offering and Kraft Foods' \$8.7 billion IPO in 2001.

At a midpoint price, Visa could raise about \$15.6 billion, or more than \$17 billion if underwriters exercise their option to buy the entire lot of 40.6 million shares. Even at the low end price of \$37 a share, Visa would raise about \$15 billion.

About \$3 billion will go toward Visa's litigation costs, including suits brought by U.S. and foreign regulators over alleged restraint of competition, and over interchange fees — the fees merchants pay to complete transactions through Visa's system. These legal battles could make investors hesitant to buy into the upcoming IPO. The rest of the proceeds will be used for general corporate purposes.

Visa said it intends to pay shareholders an annual dividend of 42 cents a share. The shares will be listed with the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker V.

AP Business Writer Michael Lee contributed to this report.

## BIZBRIEFS

### POWER GRID CAUSES

#### PROBLEM IN FLA.

A problem with Florida's electrical grid caused a nuclear plant to automatically shut down Tuesday and intermittently cut power to up to 3 million people from Daytona Beach through the Florida Keys. Authorities said there were no safety concerns at the nuclear plant and were working to pinpoint the outages' cause. While many areas were hit hard, most of the outages were brief and only a few hundred thousand people lacked electricity for the evening commute home.

— AP

### IBM STOCK DOING BET-

#### TER THAN EXPECTED.

Wall Street reversed earlier losses and rallied Tuesday after IBM approved a \$15 billion stock buyback, suggesting to investors that there are still some companies out there with financial muscle. The Dow Jones industrial average rose more than 110 points.

IBM Corp., one of the 30 companies that make up the Dow, said the buyback will boost its earnings for 2008 past Wall Street's prior forecasts. Shares of Big Blue vaulted \$4.30, or 3.9 percent, to \$114.38.

— AP

### GOODYEAR TIRES GET

#### PROFITS ROLLING WELL.

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.'s focus on selling tires with high profit margins is paying off for the company, which said Thursday it swung to a quarterly profit on strong U.S. and international sales.

The world's third largest tire maker earned \$52 million, or 23 cents a share, in the fourth quarter ended Dec. 31, compared with a loss of \$358 million, or \$2.02, in the year-earlier period when results were brought down by a steel workers strike at North American factories.

Quarterly results beat Wall Street expectations and Goodyear shares rose more than 7 percent.

— AP

MIA HOWARD

Register Reporter

Purkett Resources was started by LeJohn Purkett about three years ago as a three-tier business.

Purkett said that the name of his company came from his college years at A&T when his friends would call him for favors such as running errands, developing websites, job hunting and finding other various resources. Anthony Harris said, "I would call him Purkfection, and this is what inspired him to name the business after himself."

Purkett's "first venture" as a mystery shopping provider helps with business sales and profits, management and quality service. This program evaluates customer service and reports results to the owners in order to get the outside perspective they need to effectively run their business. Currently, Purkett Resources is hiring mystery shoppers who will be interviewed and trained. This will help them make objective decisions about the quality of their client's customer service; giving their clients an evaluation shaped to their specific needs.

The mystery shoppers who are hired will be paid monetarily and also compensated with the products they acquire from the businesses they evaluate.

Purkett's other services is called Errands -N- Stuff. This business caters to students, senior citizens, busy parents, and business professionals who may sometimes feel like there is just not enough time in the day. When students are not able to get to Ed Mcays to buy their books, this service is useful. Professionals who need mail or lunch delivered will also find this service beneficial. There

is a \$7 minimum base fee to schedule an errand. After the \$7 fee, an additional \$7 fee is charged for every fifteen minutes it takes to complete the errand. "This service has helped me to manage my time better and worry about my larger daily task instead of worrying about small errands I'm responsible for," said Claireese Foster, a single mother of three.

Purkett said the most difficult obstacles in starting Purkett Resources were finances and support, but he overcame most of these obstacles by believing in himself and not letting others

tell him that he was incapable of starting a business.

This business owner does not let his job end with Purkett Resources. Since his days at A&T, he has dedicated his time to giving back to the youth through fundraisers and mentor programs. He has put forth the devout effort in helping the youth of Greensboro get involved in community service projects instead of gang related activities.

Purkett has a paper recycling campaign which helps raise money for the Arthur Lee youth council, Knights of Pythagoras.

# New disease threatens wallets

JEANNINE AVERSA

Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** It's a toxic economic mix the nation hasn't seen in three decades: Prices are speeding upward at the fastest pace in a quarter century, even as the economy loses steam.

Economists call the disease "stagflation," and they're worried it might be coming back.

Already, paychecks aren't stretching as far, and jobs are harder to find, threatening to set off a vicious cycle that could make things even worse.

The economy nearly stalled in the final three months of last year and probably is barely growing or even shrinking now. That's the "stagnation" part of the ailment. Typically, that slowdown should slow inflation as well — the second part of the diagnosis — but prices are still marching higher.

The latest worrisome news came Tuesday: a government report showing wholesale prices climbed 7.4 percent in the past year. That was the biggest annual leap since 1981.

"We're in a slowdown," Press Secretary Dana Perino said at the White House, where the economics talk was still upbeat until recently.

Once the twin evils of stagflation take hold, it can be hard to break the grip. People cut back on their spending as they are stung by rising prices and shriveling wages. Businesses,

also socked by rising costs and declining demand from customers, clamp down on their hiring and capital investment.

That would be a nightmare scenario for Wall Street investors, businesses, politicians and most everyone else. They're already looking to the Federal Reserve for help, but the Fed's job is complicated by the situation.

The mission of Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues is to nurture economic growth and keep inflation under control. To brace the teetering economy, the Fed since September has been ratcheting down its key interest rate.

Another cut is expected in March. However, to combat inflation, the Fed would be expected to boost rates instead.

"The Fed has its hands full. It is preoccupied with the economic slowdown at the front door, but inflation looks to be sneaking in the back door," said Greg McBride, senior financial analyst at Bankrate.com.

"If that trend continues, the Fed would need to show the economy some tough love, meaning higher interest rates to keep inflation from getting out of hand."

On the other hand, Brian Bethune, economist at Global Insight, said Bernanke can fight only one war at a time, and the more pressing issue right now is to shore up the ailing economy. "That's the war that needs to be fought. The war on inflation will have to come another day," Bethune said.

hune said.

Maybe things won't be so bad. Stock prices rose for the day, continuing a recent mini-rally. And Federal Reserve vice chairman Donald Kohn said in a speech that he doesn't expect the recent elevated inflation readings to persist.

"But the recent information on prices underlines the need to continue to monitor the inflation situation very carefully," he added.

Some numbers underscore the concerns:

Prices paid by consumers are up 4.1 percent over the past year, the biggest increase in 17 years.

Those higher prices — especially for heating homes and filling up gas tanks — are taking an ever-bigger bite out of paychecks. Workers' weekly earnings are down 1.4 percent from a year ago when adjusted for that inflation.

Oil prices galloped past \$100 a barrel to close at a record \$100.88 on Tuesday. Those lofty energy prices are a double-edged sword: They can spread inflation through the economy by boosting the prices of lots of other goods and services, and they can leave people with less money to spend on other things, thus slowing overall economic activity.

There are signs high energy prices are causing some damage on both of those fronts.

People are hunkering down. Earlier this month, nervous



# Who's afraid of the big, bad N-Word?

What is the "N" word? Well according to the American Heritage Dictionary:

*nigger*  
n. *Offensive Slang*  
1. a. Used as a disparaging term for a Black person:

"You can only be destroyed by believing that you really are what the white world calls a nigger" (James Baldwin).

b. Used as a disparaging term for a member of any dark-skinned people.

2. Used as a disparaging term for a member of any socially, economically, or politically deprived group of people: "Gun owners are the new niggers... of society" (John Aquilino).

Why is it that this one word sends emotions of anger down our spines as Black people?

I sat back and really did some thinking and realized that this word does not have to be what the *history* has made it to be.

Yes, this was a derogatory term used toward people of color and even the dictionary calls it offensive slang.

However, if you really think about the "N" word one must understand its origins are not something of derogatory



MARVIN Q. JONES JR.

nature but made that way and accepted into society as a term of degradation.

Interestingly enough the word "black" changed from being a term of hate to a term of power. The word black was used in the Black Power Movement, used throughout the Civil Rights era to and other movements in history to empower blacks and encourage them to remain uplifted despite the odds that faced them.

The "N" word was associated with a people in my eyes who were hard working, intelligent, and beautiful. My ancestors, though they were forced to work hard in the fields, were hard working people.

My ancestors were intellectuals. They used polytonal expression in their hymns to find ways to freedom.

The song "Wade in the Water" though it is a gospel song it was also a song talking about escaping to freedom and avoiding slave masters while treading quietly through rivers.

They thought our women were beautiful despite calling them the "N" word, just ask Thomas Jefferson. There have been numerous people in history called the "N" word but if you examine the context in which they were called the "N" word it was almost as if they were being "hated on".

Martin Luther King, Jr was called the word, however we all see what he as done for society not just blacks but all people. His philosophies continue to be used in all sorts of social contexts.

Marcus Garvey was called the word, however his legendary leadership and scholarship made him one of the most noted blacks in history.

The invention of the light bulb was not by Thomas Edison but by Lewis Latimer, someone society would call an "intellectual N word".

Without Latimer's genius so many industries would not exist and the bright promises of America would still be stumbling in the dark.

The "N" word has not had its effects entirely due to whites calling blacks by this word, but rather because it has been allowed to make many footprints in the sands of our minds.

Henry David Thoreau once said, "As a single footstep will not make a path on the earth, so a single thought will not make a pathway in the mind. To make a deep physical path, we walk again and again.

To make a deep mental path, we must think over and over the kind of thoughts we wish to dominate our lives" (Thoreau, Walden).

As long as the word continues to receive that negative connotation that comes with it this word will continue to haunt and maintain control over the minds of Black people.

Think of it like this, if you got in an argument with someone over a bunch of drama or nonsense, when you stop feeding into the drama the drama starves and eventually fizzles out and dissipates just like a fire that has nothing left to consume.

The "N" word can have the same effect if we do not feed into the negativity associated with the word but turn it into a movement of power then one will find that the "N" word will lose its power.

We should not use our past history as a crutch but rather as a springboard to continue to make progress in the

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The words in this column do not represent the views and opinions of The A&T Register, they are solely the reflections of the writer.

We feel that Jones' use of the N-Word unadulterated is integral to the understanding of the column as it was presented in an academic and intelligent way.

It in no way perpetuated a cycle of ignorance or malice towards black people but hoped to spark serious conversation about the word and the people affected by it.

black community. Philip Roth once stated, "History... is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake."

I earnestly believe that it is time to begin to wake from the nightmare that the "N" word has plagued in the dreams of black people.

We should never forget the past because if we do not remember the past nor learn from it we are doomed to repeat. Sticks and stones may break our bones but we truly have to learn that words cannot hurt us unless we give them the power.

## Rejoining the 'Normals'

I'm surfing through the channels on television on one of my many boring afternoons. Those of which, I seem to have a lot more of lately. There is nothing on, so I resort to the always-entertaining BET.

They're showing a rerun of the classic 1988 film, School Daze. I commend Spike Lee for his semi-accurate portrayal of the realities of black college life.

He specifically goes into the lives of members of Greek organizations and campus activists. However, as I watch, I can't help but think if the movie would have been better had he shed light on athletic organizations, which can be seen as fraternities or sororities in its own.

Being a student athlete is not an easy task but it can sometimes give you rights of passage that "normals" do not have the luxury of having.

For example, ever wonder how that basketball player in your major seems to never be in class but miraculously he passes the course with maybe even a better grade than you? Well yes, athletes are missing some classes but more than likely it is because they are traveling.

From the point-of-view of an athlete, there are ups and



BRITTNEY HANNAH

lectures.

True, they are able to make up quizzes and test with an excuse, but they have to depend on notes from others and thoroughly reading the text to get the information.

"Some of my classes are harder than others so they require me to be there. In that aspect, traveling is a little detrimental," said senior Track & Field participant Travanni Jette.

Regularly, students are allowed three to four unexcused absences. Athletes are allowed only one. After that, your professors are able to contact the coaches of your particular sport.

The coaches will then set up a meeting with the athlete to give him or her a formal warning. On the second unexcused absence, the athlete must meet with both the coach and the athletic director. On the third

downs to missing class because of travel. Athletes get to travel and see places they've never seen before however, they miss many class

absence, there is a conference with the athletic director, the head coach and the parents of the athlete to discuss whether or not the student-athlete should keep his or her scholarship.

The bond of your teammates is like those of people in fraternities and sororities. You struggle everyday with them by your side and they are there through trials and tribulations. Quitting a sport is hard and leaving behind your newfound family is even harder.

Going on my first full year of normalcy, I sometimes regret my decision to leave track & field behind to focus on my education.

Watching my teammates, or should I say, ex-teammates, complete an indoor season placing third in the MEAC makes me miss the sport dearly. Even though practices are extreme, you feel some sort of purpose and importance in this huge university.

Being an athlete sets you apart from the thousands walking the yard. Not everyone has the privilege of wearing the Aggie Blue and Gold bearing their sport of choice.

Brittney Hannah is a junior Journalism and Mass Communication major.

## Smoking weed on campus?

JOSH KING  
Black College Wire

Herb being smoked in front of the Florida A&M University café was the last thing I expected on my way to buy a No. 2 with a coke.

The cloud of smoke coming from the mouths of people sitting around the eatery's outer brick wall almost choked me.

As I passed by, the cloud of stupidity that circled their thinking processes almost made me re-analyze why I was at an institution of higher education.

As I sat in the café waiting on my brothers to get their food, questions filled my mind.

Is this in the FAMU student handbook, The Fang? Was I the only person out of the couple hundred people that passed this ignorance who smelled the illegality?

Or, am I the only one who cares that this was going on?

John Tucker, 20, a sophomore business administration student from Atlanta, had more trouble with the place students chose to smoke than the act.

"I don't care if you smoke weed, but if you do it in an open area, you deserve to get caught," he said.

I'm not the only person who is witnessing this illegal activity, so why is this going on?

Since the activity was in front of the café, I proceeded to the counter to get a response from a Sodexho food employee.

Tasha Cook said when students are smoking outside of her job, it has little effect on her.

"I don't go to school here, and it's not affecting me," she said. "If they get caught that's their business."

As I questioned Cook, another Sodexho employee heard our conversation and left his cooking station to go outside where I first saw the group of herb

smokers.

I followed him slowly and watched him from inside. From the looks of it, he warned the group that someone was inside reporting on the illegal activity, and they needed to leave.

Before the Sodexho employee could get back to the entrance of the café door, the mob of people scattered in different directions as if they were leaving a crime scene.

Was this an eyewitness account of the Code of Silence? These reactions were so unreal.

As I walked across the street, all I could think about was how scholarly students park illegally to get to class because of car troubles or a lack of parking spaces and get towed or booted, but students sit 15 feet away from Wahnish Way and smoke illegal drugs with no repercussion.

Josh King writes for The Falmuan at Florida A&M.

### SKETCHMAN by Brandon Murphy



Brandon Murphy is a student at North Carolina Central University but contributes exclusive strips to The A&T Register

# YOU SAID IT NOT US

### The Village is choking the child (2/20/08)

Anthony

Posted 2/21/08 @ 1:37 PM EST

As I monitor BLACK PROGRESS, if we've had any, I tend to recognize that we've internalize an attitude of competition in areas we probably shouldn't have. The young and the old have always competed for "who's right" and "whose responsibility is it". I did enjoy reading this perspective and it really identifies much to discuss if and when we can ever break bread in our village again as a family. However, I am more of a uniter than I am a divider and as an older AGGIE I'd like to submit the solution of taking

change and moving forward with initiative.

While attending A&T, I heard the young mention many times that there were not enough black instructors. The question "why not" was very difficult to answer by faculty, but my answer is that "our black youth are not becoming professors and those that want more than universities can afford in wages". Basically, WE ARE THE ANSWER.

The village isn't choking our children, in my opinion, but we are choking each other by not seeing past division to a united village with both young and old leadership existing together. We didn't hire Jesse, Al, or Cornell and we will not hire our future leaders. We must stop asking who should be 'anointed black leader' among us and just take our place as we see fit - the Barak as well as our youth will just take their place. There is no application to be filled out, just action to be taken by anyone who is willing and able to make the respective contribution - take that action.

## WANT TO KNOW WHY?

Send us your questions, comments, concerns and opinions to  
**editor@ncatregister.com**



# A 'Ram' shame

## Rush-less Aggies lack firepower to defeat their interstate rivals

**MALCOLM S. EUSTACHE**  
Sports Editor

One month ago, the Aggies welcomed Winston-Salem into Corbett Sports Center and jumped out to their fastest start of the season behind a classic first-half performance from guard Steven Rush on their way to burying them 75-56 that night.

Last Saturday, the Aggies were without their three-point assassin due to a suspension handed down by the league offices for an elbow Rush thrown during the Delaware State game.

It was enough to aid WSSU to a 71-63 victory in the Lawrence-Joel Coliseum Annex.

But the league offices may be hearing more from A&T.

With less than 2 minutes remaining in the game, and the Aggies trailing 63-60, the Rams' Darius Floyd missed the second of two freethrows. As the rebound came off of the rim and forward Thomas Coleman went for the rebound, Winston's Jamal Durham leaped over the back of Coleman. What ensued was a double-technical foul and an ejection for A&T Head Coach Jerry Eaves.

"It is something that we will discuss with the league offices," said Coach Eaves. "It shouldn't take away from what was a great game for the community and college basketball in general. The tradition of the Winston-Salem and A&T rivalry is something special and you saw it tonight. Their fans

were alive and wide open like our fans are in Corbett."

Not much else resembled the game in Corbett in January for the Aggies.

Without the 15.4 points per game, A&T was forced to try to find points from as many sources as possible.

Sophomore forward Robert Johnson started the game and posted a career high in points with 14, also adding 2 rebounds and 2 assists in 22 minutes.

"Robert played well and I knew he would," said Coach Eaves. "He's been going through a growth process as far as not playing him to early which is good because it gives him a chance to learn. But he played tremendous and he's going to play a lot more."

Someone who had been seemingly giving a lot more of late is forward Jason Wills.

The forward stepped up to fill Rush's void pouring in 23 points and grabbing 9 rebounds.

"He played great, stepped up, and just did an excellent job without Steve," said Coach Eaves. "He played the way he should play and we need him to play that way for the rest of the year."

That rest of the year started the following Monday versus the Bulldogs of South Carolina State for Wills.

In the midst of Rush's return, the Aggies found themselves in another close contest on the road with the game tied at 75.

It was here when Wills, who posted 12-points an 9 boards, sank a jumper with 2 seconds



PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL • REGISTER

THE AGGIES and the Rams split their season series this season with each team defending their homecourts with convincing victories, remaining to propel A&T to a 77-75 win.

"That's what you expect of a senior with Jason's ability," said Coach Eaves. "We like him to handle the ball out there because he's able to take big off the dribble and score. It was a big-time shot by a big-time player."

What may have factored into their victory more than anything was the widespread scoring that was lacking during the Winston outing. A&T had five players in double figures, including Wills.

Austin Ewing, who only had 3-points versus Winston, led all scorers with 13 against the

Bulldogs.

Johnson had another double-digit performance with 10-points.

Ed Jones, who only played 6 minutes, also scored 12-points.

A&T, who currently sits at fifth in the conference with 3 games remaining before the MEAC tournament.

# Lady Aggies clinch No.1



PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL • REGISTER

JALEESA SAMS and the Aggies clinched a variety of MEAC tournament and post tournament spots with dominating performances over Winston-Salem State and South Carolina State. The ladies are currently guaranteed a spot in the WNIT, even without a conference title victory.

**DANIEL HENDERSON**  
Staff Writer

A series of two games in three days, with two victories in double figure digits has started to become a cyclic habit for the lady Aggies, who clinched the MEAC Monday night in Orangeburg, South Carolina.

That 86-67 win, along with Saturday's 81-44 thumping over Winston-Salem State University has now put A&T (21-5, 13-0) two wins away from gaining sole possession of first place for the MEAC tournament on March 10-15 in Raleigh.

The blue and gold have also earned a guaranteed position in the Women's National Invitational Tournament, and can establish the highest winning percentage in school history if successfully closing out the remainder of the regular season. "I'm so proud of my ladies," said Bibbs. "Everybody is coming after us with their best game and we didn't wither under the pressure."

Monday's triumph resulted in the 14th consecutive for the Lady Aggies, who never

trailed throughout the game.

Junior leading scorer Amber Bland led her team with the game high 23 points, one game after carrying the load in the absence of sophomore sensation Ta'Wuana Cook.

She and junior Brittane Taylor-James contributed 19 and 17 points respectively off the bench.

Cook made a game time decision to rest a minor injury before Saturday's rivalry in Winston-Salem.

A jam packed arena full of spectators, watched the Lady Aggies embarrass the Rams for the second time in a non-conference match-up, as the blue and gold forced 34 turnovers.

"We got an opportunity to play a lot of our kids and look at some different things we wanted to look at, so it was a good night for us," said Bibbs after the game. "I was hoping to get our backup point guards a chance to get some game experience because we need to know they can contribute if Ta'Wuana Cook is not on the floor."

Four players finished in double figures in scoring with Bland leading the game with

20 points six rebounds, and four assists.

"I think it's meaningful because it shows how far this program has come," said Bibbs. "Then when you think about the fact that we have a quality group of kids who get to be a part of an exclusive club here at A&T, it makes it even more special. They truly deserve it."

# Swim team loses CCSA

**MALCOLM S. EUSTACHE**  
Sports Editor

A&T had a more than impressive outing at the HBCU Championships held at the Corbett Sports Center where they defeated Florida A&M and Howard to win the championship.

Unfortunately for the Aggies, they could not repeat their performance this past weekend at the Coastal Collegiate Swimming Association Championships in Huntersville.

The Davidson College Wild-

cat's women took home the title on Saturday racking up 660 points total. Their coach also earned Women's Coach of the Year honors.

The Aggies finished 10th in the tournament.

The College of Charleston Cougars locked up the men's side by totaling 846 points. Their coach also was awarded Coach of the Year honors.

This is A&T's first year as members of the CCSA conference. They were formerly members of the Northeast Conference.

# Aggie tennis falls to BCU

**MALCOLM S. EUSTACHE**  
Sports Editor

The Aggies women's tennis team had implications that it would be a difficult season being forced to overcome the obstacle of a season ending back injury to junior Porche Martin.

It is difficult to believe, however, that they knew it would be quite this rough.

The ladies, who lost their first five matches, currently stand at 2-9 on the season.

They have found some comfort at home at the Aggie Tennis Complex as their 2-1 record proves, picking up

victories against local rivalries Winston-Salem State and NC Central but falling to Campbell.

Their most recent match was a 6-1 loss to the Wildcats of Bethune-Cookman in Orangeburg, S.C. this past Friday.

Their next match is against the Longwood University Lancers on Thursday.

The Aggies may be able to breathe a sigh of relief as they return to Aggie Land for three-straight matches at the beginning of March facing the Liberty University Flames and the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers, before welcoming the Florida A&M Rattlers of the MEAC.

# AGGIES RUNDOWN

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
North Carolina A&T	13-0	21-5
Coppin State	11-3	17-11
Morgan State	10-4	18-9
MD Eastern-Shore	10-4	17-10
Delaware State	10-4	15-13
South Carolina State	8-6	11-14
Hampton	7-6	14-12
Howard	2-11	3-23
Florida A&M	2-12	11-15
Norfolk State	1-12	5-19
Bethune-Cookman	1-13	4-22

## THIS WEEK'S GAMES:

Saturday  
vs. Howard  
Washington D.C.  
2 p.m.

Monday  
vs. Hampton  
Hampton, Va  
6 p.m.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Morgan State	12-2	18-3
Norfolk State	10-3	6-14
Delaware State	9-5	4-19
Hampton	8-5	5-17
North Carolina A&T	8-5	10-15
Florida A&M	7-7	1-18
Coppin State	6-8	7-5
South Carolina State	6-8	5-9
Bethune-Cookman	5-9	5-20
Howard	2-11	2-21
MD Eastern-Shore	2-12	7-16

## THIS WEEK'S GAMES:

Saturday  
vs. Howard  
Washington D.C.  
4 p.m.

Monday  
vs. Hampton  
Hampton, Va  
8 p.m.

## BASEBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
North Carolina	0-0	3-0
Norfolk State	0-0	2-0
Bethune-Cookman	0-0	1-1
MD Eastern-Shore	0-0	0-1
Delaware State	0-0	0-2
Florida A&M	0-0	0-3
Coppin State	0-0	0-0

## THIS WEEK'S GAMES:

Wednesday  
vs. Gardner-Webb  
Boiling Springs  
2 p.m.

Friday  
vs. The Citadel  
Charleston, S.C.  
4 p.m.

## SOFTBALL

### NORTHERN DIVISION

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Delaware State	0-0	2-0
Hampton	0-0	2-2
Morgan State	0-0	1-1

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
North Carolina A&T	0-0	5-1
Florida A&M	0-0	2-5
Norfolk State	0-0	1-3
South Carolina State	0-0	0-4
Bethune-Cookman	0-0	0-9

## THIS WEEK'S GAME:

Friday - Sunday  
N.C. A&T Invitational  
Aggie Softball Complex  
2 p.m.

## NEWS & NOTES

**INDOOR TRACK** Coming out of the Virginia Tech Last Chance Meet, Coach Roy 'Spaceman' Thompson and the track program are preparing for the NCAA Division I Championship in Fayetteville, Ark on March 14th and 15th.

**FOOTBALL** The Aggies are looking to rebound immediately from two of the most disappointing seasons in A&T football's history by opening the season against out-of-conference opponent Johnson C. Smith University at home.

You know you have something to say. The A&T Register gives you a chance to be heard. Contributors meetings in the NCB 328A @ 5 p.m.

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## Softball splits games versus Gardner-Webb

DANIEL HENDERSON  
Staff Writer

A&T women's softball team competed in a doubleheader last Wednesday splitting the series 1-1 against Gardner Webb University, following an 8-7 victory after a tough 1-0 loss in Boiling Springs.

The Lady Aggies are now (5-1) with last weeks lost given them their first defeat since last season.

In game one's action, the blue and gold suffered a beating after equaling out the same amount of hits, but obtained a 4-1 disadvantage in errors.

Sophomore Bianca Alsobrook earned A&T's only at bat which resulted in landing on base.

Game two exemplified resil-

lency for Lady Aggies who gained a commanding 8-3 lead through five innings.

Gardner-Webb never could regain the lead as A&T's junior Zepora Gaston recorded her first save of the season.

Freshman starting pitcher Jennifer Luper achieved victory for the third time and remains undefeated through the year.

Both teams finished the second battle with 11 total hits, while the blue and gold still could not capitalize on the turnover margin losing 3-0.

Freshman Ryane Hill demanded attention from her opponents batting 2-4 with three RBIs and two runs scored leading the Lady Aggies offensively.

Senior Chaola Simmons also chipped in with two hits.

## Aggies sweep weekend series

A&T's depth made evident through dominating season-opening series against Buffalo

MALCOLM S. EUSTACHE  
Sports Editor

It's a historic start to what A&T hopes will be an even more historic ending.

For the first time in Head Coach Keith Shumate's 12-year tenure, the Aggies started the season 3-0 by sweeping the Bulls of the University of Buffalo this past weekend.

Due to the Friday game being rained-out, the two teams played in a double header on Saturday with A&T winning 9-1 and 10-4 respectively. They finished the Bulls off on Sunday 9-3.

"The frame of mind that you have to have as a team and coaches is that you enter every day 0-0," said Coach Shumate. "We'll use this to build confidence, but even if we were 0-3 right now, we would still believe that we're very good."

Following their MEAC championship performance in 2006 with a heartbreaking loss in the championship in 2007, the Aggies are in the process of building a conference powerhouse.

At the foundation of the structure this season may be sophomore outfielder C.J. Beatty. Last year's MEAC Rookie of the Year set the tone for what could be a monster year by recording 2 homeruns, 5 RBI's, and batting 6 for 10 during the series.

"First and foremost I'm here for my team," said Beatty, who recorded 10 homeruns last season. "I thank God for my ability and it's good that I go out there and play hard, but it's all about the team."

The biggest role may be the abundance of veteran leadership.

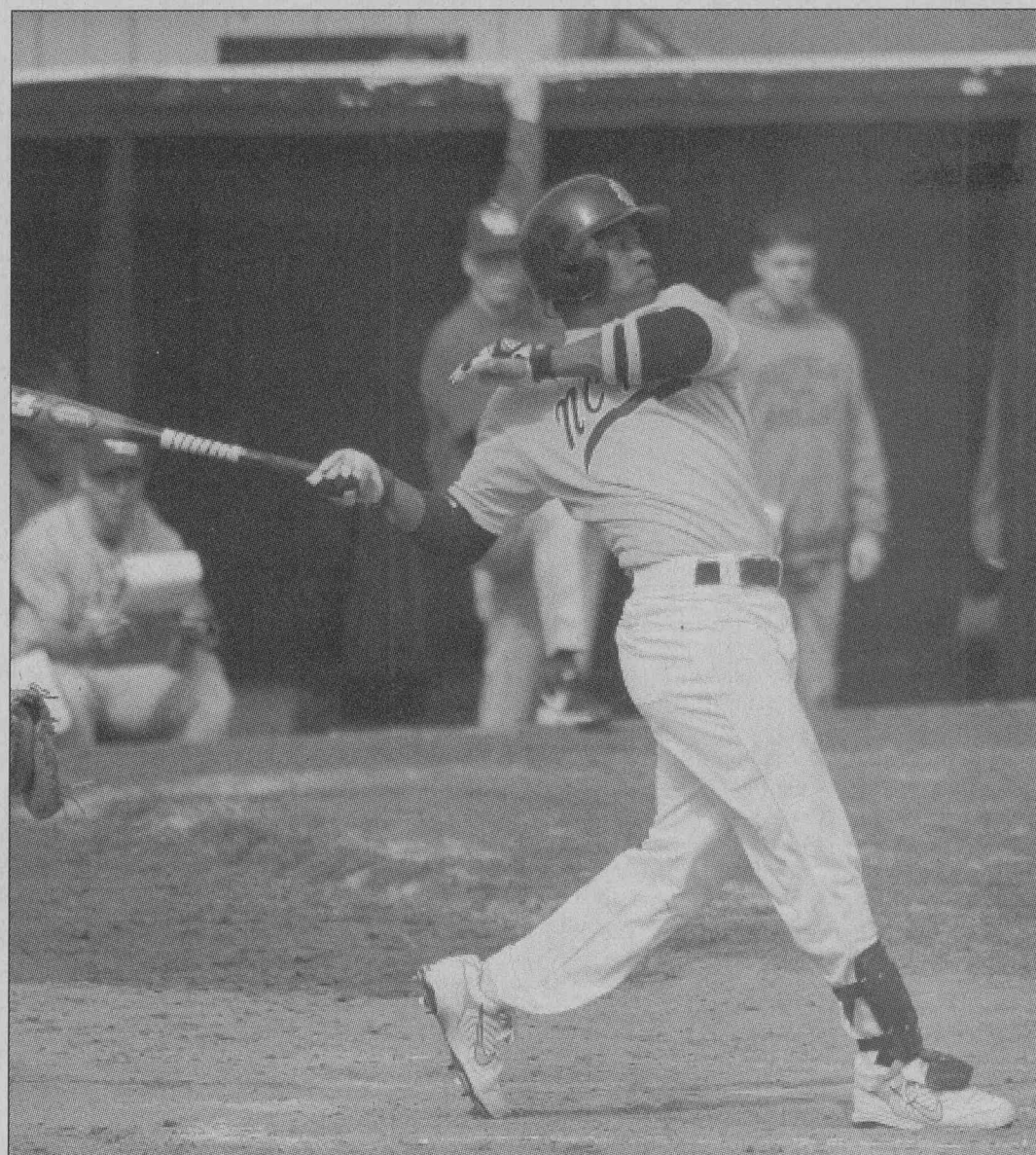


PHOTO BY MICHAEL SIMMONS

C.J. BEATTY hammered two homeruns in the three-game series versus Buffalo before A&T fell to Appalachian State on Tuesday. The Aggies travel to Gardner-Webb on Wednesday in the first game of an eight-game road trip.

With twelve seniors on the squad, and appearances in 2 conference championship games in a row, the Aggies have few holes.

Outfielder Jeremy Jones is arguably one of the most accomplished Aggie athletes in

history.

The fifth-year senior racked up four All-American honors last season after returning from the Colorado Rockies due to injury.

Seniors Joe McIntyre, Nick Mayo, John Primus, Neil Ross-

er, and Phillip Brewington are all going to play a roll in the Aggies returning to the championship.

The Aggies lost on Tuesday versus Appalachian State 9-6 at War Memorial Stadium.

## Clemens arrives at Astros Camp; says that 'it's baseball time'

CHRIS DUNCAN  
AP Sports Writer

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Roger Clemens arrived at the Houston Astros' minor league clubhouse on Tuesday and walked straight to a fenced-in bullpen to greet his oldest son, Koby, a catcher in the Astros' system.

He snapped at a photographer who started clicking pictures.

"This isn't a zoo!" Clemens barked.

The seven-time Cy Young Award winner was calmer a few minutes later, but refused to answer questions about the Mitchell Report or a possible criminal investigation into his denials of

steroid use.

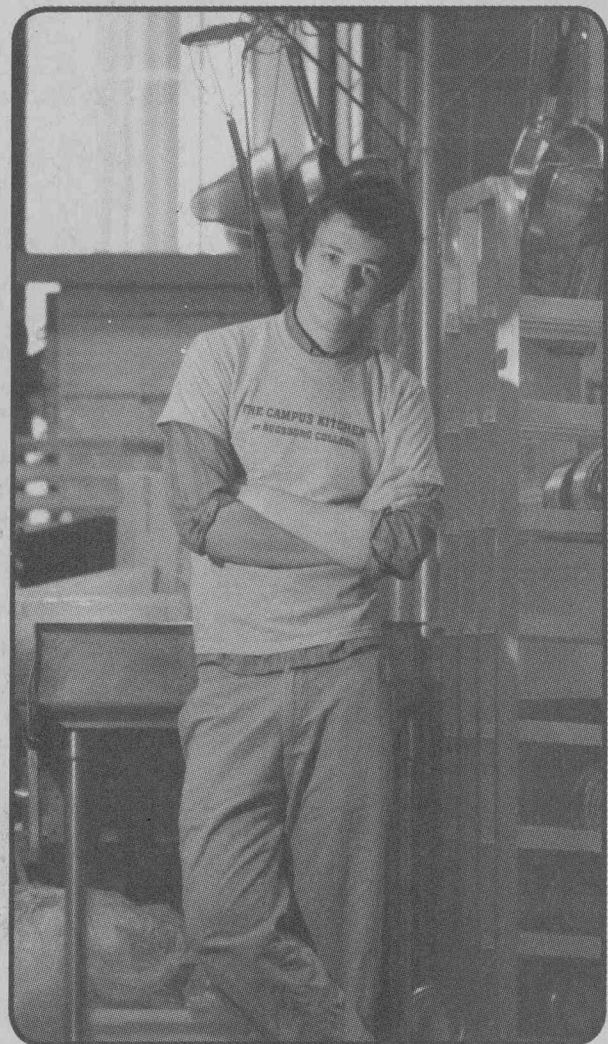
"Everything's been said that needs to be said on that," Clemens said. "We're moving forward. It's baseball time."

Clemens will pitch batting practice from Wednesday through Friday to minor leaguers. He arrived one day after The New York Times reported a House committee had drafted a letter asking the Justice Department to look into whether Clemens committed perjury.

Clemens has repeatedly denied that he used steroids or performance-enhancing drugs, allegations brought by former personal trainer Brian McNamee.

# CKP

## the campus kitchens project



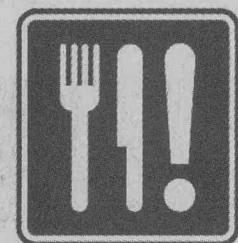
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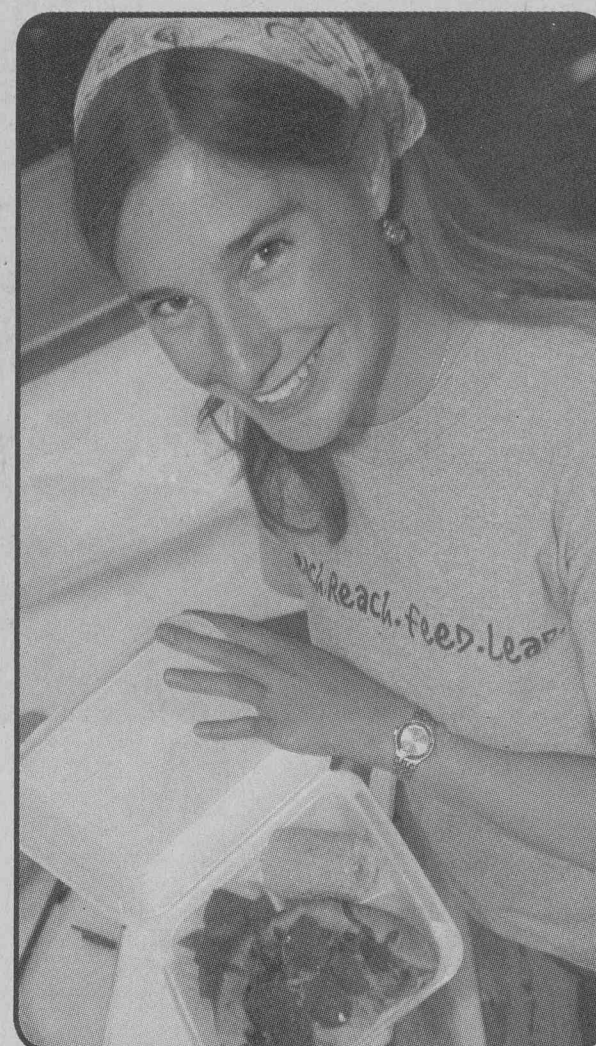
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## 'Money May' taking his talents to WWE

BETH HARRIS  
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Floyd Mayweather Jr. is a champion boxer and has tested his moves on "Dancing With the Stars." Now the man many consider the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world is preparing to drop the gloves and do some wrasslin'.

A \$20 million payday awaits the undefeated WBC welterweight champion when he takes on Big Show as part of WWE's "WrestleMania XXIV" at Citrus Bowl in Orlando, Fla., on March 30.

"It's entertainment. You have a chance to just be you and do what you want to do," Mayweather said Monday after a chaotic Staples Center event that masqueraded as a news conference.

The boxer nicknamed "Money" clearly likes the way WWE does business.

"Wrestling takes care of business right on the spot," Mayweather said. "Whatever they say they're going to do, they do it right on the spot. There's no waiting three, four, five months."

His manager Leonard Ellerbe and WWE executive Shane McMahon confirmed Mayweather's eight-figure payday for the outdoor match to be shown live on pay-per-view. Mayweather incited the couple hundred of already hyped fans at Staples Center by whipping out a thick wad of cash and repeatedly tossing \$100, \$50 and \$20 bills into the crowd that had nearly as many women as men.

A mad scramble ensued, with a light pole nearly getting knocked over and two small children caught in the chaos.

Mayweather played to the frenzied crowd after appearing from behind a black curtain wearing a New York Yankees jacket and cap.

"I run Vegas and I run L.A. and I will run the WWE," he boasted.

At 5-foot-8, 150 pounds, Mayweather gives up big numbers to the bald Big Show, who stands 7-feet and weighs 430.

"I weigh three times as much as he does," Big Show crowed. "It's not fair, but I'm a businessman and I see an opportunity for business."

Then he picked up the wooden podium and tossed it to the floor, where it splintered and the attached two mics lay like broken sticks.

"WWE is the biggest it gets," Mayweather said. "This is going to be an event like none other."

Ellerbe scoffed that hardcore boxing fans won't take Mayweather seriously after his WWE antics.

"After March 30, when Floyd goes out and takes care of his business at WrestleMania, he's still going to be the best fighter in the world and the face of boxing," he said.

The wrestling gig is another part of Ellerbe's carefully crafted plan to expand Mayweather's fan base.

"Either I'm going to be a genius with this or I'm the biggest idiot," he said. "Boxers have such a short window of opportunity. He can't become any bigger in boxing."

## Perfect Season?

Tiger's perfection is still premature

DOUG FERGUSON  
AP Golf Writer

MARANA, Ariz. (AP) — The closest anyone came to a perfect season on the PGA Tour was Ben Hogan.

He won every major championship he played in 1953, and every official tournament he entered except for the Seminole Pro-Am Invitational, where he tied for second.

Then again, Hogan only played six times that year because of battered legs from a bus accident. Tiger Woods will play no more than 17 events on the PGA Tour this year, so a 2-0 start might be a little early for anyone to get excited.

Even so, expectations were as high as the desert sun at noon when Woods left Arizona with yet another victory. It was his fourth in a row on tour since early September, all done in record fashion.

He set a 72-hole scoring record at Cog Hill outside Chicago and won by eight shots at the Tour Championship and the Buick Invitational, both record margins.

On Sunday, he smoked Stewart Cink 8 and 7 in the Accenture Match Play Championship, the biggest blowout in the finals in 10 years of a tournament that Woods considers the toughest to win this side of a major.

"I think this certainly is the best stretch I've ever played," Woods said.

Strong words — downright scary — considering that Woods won nine times, including three straight majors, in 2000 and that he won six consecutive PGA Tour events at the end of 2006, a streak that reached seven until losing in the Match.

Woods, who also won in Dubai earlier this month, has never before started a season with three straight victories, and it is hard not to speculate how long he can keep winning given his history at some of the tournaments coming up.

Next is the Arnold Palmer Invitational March 13-16 at Bay Hill, where Woods won four straight times from 2000 to 2003. The week after that is the CA Championship at Doral, where he has won the last three years. Then the Masters April 10-13.

"He just morphs his game into the courses," Cink said. "So I don't think there's a course that's going to present him with a real obstacle as far as him not being a favorite."

Woods did little to squash the notion of a perfect season when someone asked him if winning them all was within reason.

"That's my intent. That's why you play," Woods said after collecting his 63rd career tour victory and his 15th title in the World Golf Championships. "If you don't believe you can win an event, don't show up."

But it also is his intent to make every putt and hit every shot just how he wants. No one does that, of course. No one wins every tournament.

A perfect season in golf? "I do find that laughable," Hal Sutton said Monday. "Anybody who knows golf knows that ain't going to happen."

You can only own this game

for a certain period of time. Even if your name is Tiger Woods, you don't own it forever."

Sutton was among those who beat Woods during a time when the world's No. 1 player looked unbeatable, going head-to-head with him at The Players Championship in 2000 and winning by one shot.

He watched part of the championship match Sunday "until I got bored."

"Tiger is definitely more dominating," Sutton said.

Curtis Strange is among those who played in the prime years of Woods and Jack Nicklaus, and he said it is pointless to compare generations.

But he also found speculation of a perfect season to be "a little over the top."

"He is by far and away the best player," Strange said. "We've never had a player this much better than the second-best player. He's unbelievable, really. But he's not unbeatable."

Let's not get ahead of ourselves just because he beat Stewart Cink 8 and 7."

As usual, the best comparisons are to Woods himself.

Most consider his best golf to be from late 1999 through the 2001 Masters, when he won 16 of 32 times on the PGA Tour and four consecutive majors.

Dating to the 2006 British Open, Woods has won 15 of his last 24 events, a 63 percent clip.

"He just has this strong sense of belief in himself that he's just never out of it," Cink said. "He's never going to mess up. He's just always in control. He never loses his composure."

## AROUND SPORTS

### BASEBALL

WASHINGTON — Roger Clemens' reputation and legal fate rest with a House committee that must decide whether to ask the Justice Department to investigate if the star pitcher or his accuser made false statements under oath to Congress.

### COLLEGE BASKETBALL

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee had "everything to gain and nothing to lose" in playing Memphis, coach Bruce Pearl says. The Volunteers' 66-62 win propelled them to the top of the AP poll for the first time in the program's 99-year history. Now it's Tennessee's turn to feel the pressure of No. 1.

### AUTO RACING

FONTANA, Calif. — One of the longest days in NASCAR history ended with Jimmie Johnson out front and a long way to go. He was leading when the Auto Club 500 race was stopped by rain after 87 of the scheduled 250 laps. Five hours later, NASCAR and track officials postponed the completion of the race until this morning.

### COLLEGE FOOTBALL

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — To this day, Robert Marve wonders how he survived. The impact of the car crash last July that derailed his first season at Miami snapped his suitcase in half. Broke his prized high school football helmet too. Now he is ready to lead the Hurricanes into spring practice.

The Associated Press

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# Make-up tips from Clinique

**BRITTNEY HANNAH**  
Contributor

Fashion Etc., a club created by fashion design and merchandising majors, held a make-up seminar hosted by Clinique to teach students about make-up application and skin care. Fashion Etc. hosts different events each month and decided a seminar on make-up would be a great event for the month of February.

"We notice a lot of young ladies wearing make-up that looked unnatural, so we decided to do this event to teach women the correct way of wearing make-up and taking care of their skin," said Fashion Etc. President Latanya McRae.

Felecia Neal, a former fashion design and merchandising major and make-up artist for Clinique, spoke at the seminar. She put emphasis on personal skin care. "Your make-up only looks as good as your own skin," said Neal. She explained how make-up goes through trends. While this winter the nude look with natural colors and hues are in, the summer will change it up and gold and bronze will be the shades of choice.

As she applied make-up to one of the students attending the seminar, she told on-lookers that liquid foundation is good but for a more natural look, it should be finished by powder foundation. She also explained how to choose the per-

fect shade. "African American women can wear pretty much any eye shadow shade because of our dark eye color," said Neal.

Clinique offers make-up for all types of skin. Many are under the impression that Clinique is not for women of color. Neal disagrees. "Skin is skin. Whether it's black or white. So no, it's not for black people. It's for all people," said Neal. Clinique is owned by Estee Lauder who also owns other well known make-up and skin care products such as M.A.C, Proactive, and Benefits.

Although make-up application is important, the removal is equally important. According to Neal, soap and water does not remove make-up. To completely get rid of all traces of it, a make-up remover is needed. Make-up removers have molecules in it that break down make-up and completely remove it. "It is very important to remove make-up. Improper or non-removal of it will break out your skin," said Neal.

Clinique is a more expensive brand than what's typically found in Wal-mart and a few young ladies were apprehensive because of its cost. "I really like the make-up because it is so light, I can barely feel it. But I don't think I'd buy it. I simply can't afford it," said Moja Wynn. A junior fashion design and merchandising major from Columbia, S.C.



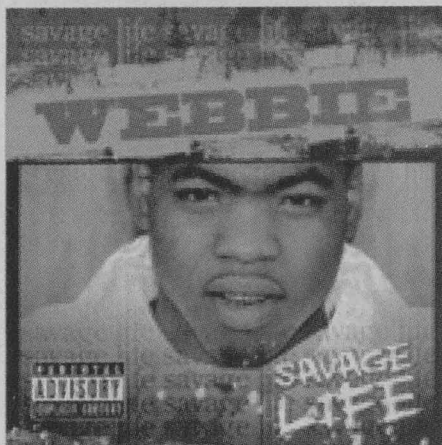
SOPHOMORE MOJA WYNN gets made-up by a professional Clinique make-up artist during the session.

PHOTO BY BRITTNEY HANNAH • REGISTER

## 5 Simple make-up tips

- 1) **Accentuate your favorite features**  
For slanted eyes apply eye liner half way on the top lid and for lips add a little color
- 2) **Make sure your lip liner is not darker than your lipstick**  
No more black liner with gloss
- 3) **Find colors that blend well with your skin**  
You want to apply make-up that matches your skin tone to create a natural look
- 4) **Three things you must always carry with you**  
Mascara, eye-liner, and of course lip gloss
- 5) **Most importantly always have confidence**  
What's the point of wearing make-up if you're not wearing it with confidence?

- A.T.



## ALBUM REVIEW WEBBIE

### Savage Life 2

Known for his hit single 'I-N-D-E-P-E-N-D-E-N-T' this La. native is a young rapper in the game who is 19-years-old. However, you could call him a veteran in the rap world since this is his second album.

I personally was never a huge fan of southern rap but, I must say Webbie did try to be versatile in his new album. He

has tracks for the ladies such as 'Miss You' featuring Letoya Luckett and of course tracks for the fellas such as, 'Six 12's' and '2 Smooth.'

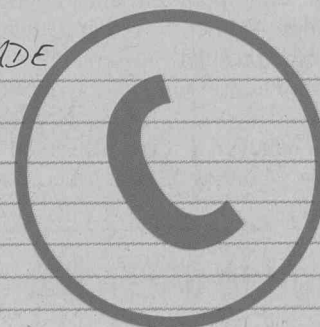
On 'You A Trip' I was happy to hear a song with an introspective feel. Finally a serious song that's not all about being "hot" from the glitz and glam of fame.

Altogether, the album had a little bit of everything. Club songs, songs to ride to and r&b slow songs. The best part of all is he's not exploiting females like the common negative side of Hip Hop.

Although, he does lack lyrical content with substance. Then again when you

think of Webbie you don't think of enlightenment, you think of dancing. He gets a C for effort. - A.T.

GRADE



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## How are you spending spring break?

ALEXANDRIA HARPER  
Contributor

This year students are going all over the United States for Spring Break. Some go on vacation for fun while others go to relax. Each student has a different reason for travel. Whatever the destination may be for spring break, most students just want to enjoy a week away from the stresses of college life.

Bryle Hatch, a senior from Greensboro, is going to Washington, D.C. Bryle intends to look for an apartment, visit friends and relax during his time away from school.

Mia Waters is a junior economics major from Oxford, N.C. She is visiting South Carolina to be with friends and to relax.

Robert Jarrell is a senior music major from Greensboro. He is staying in Greensboro to work.

Byron Ingram is from Trenton, N.C. He is a junior Laboratory Animal Science major. Byron decided on Virginia Beach for spring break because of its inexpensive cost. While on the beach, Byron plans to relax and sites see.

Amber Williams is a sophomore social work major from Charlotte. Williams is traveling to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to relax and spend time with friends.

Brandon Killian is a senior electrical engineer major from Pontiac, Mich. He is traveling to Miami with friends to party and have a good time.

Bonnie Pettiford, a junior public relations major from Richmond, Va., is going home to be with family and close friends.

Faith Washington, a senior public relation major from Washington, D.C., is driving to Atlanta. She and her friend Jerney Smith want to have fun for a week.

Brittany Dixon is a sophomore broadcast production major from Charlotte. She plans to go to Tennessee and view the mountains from the window of a large resort. She and her friends decided to go to Tennessee because of its unusual location for a spring break trip.

Victoria McCluney, a junior public relations major, is headed toward Miami. This will be her first time traveling for spring break.

## ► PRESS PLAY

CHRIS BROWN  
"WITH YOU"

Who doesn't like Chris Brown singing sweet love songs? Good R&B is never a problem in his records and with this song hitting #2 in this week's Billboard Top 100 charts, it deserves all the spins it gets.

## II PRESS PAUSE

FLO RIDA (FEAT. T-PAIN)  
"LOW"

This song is on heavy rotation at every pop, mix and urban radio station and desperately needs a rest. This is not the only club banger that's out. Besides, who really goes for a girl in the club with boots with the fur or even Reeboks? This isn't middle school.

# Turning history into art

## Dancers, actors and musicians honor A&T's past

ASHLEY WITHERS  
News Editor

People were turned away Friday night at Harrison Auditorium. Seating 900 people, the house was packed with an audience eager to see the performance, "Bullet Holes in the Wall: A Reflection of Courage in the Struggle for Liberation."

Through monologues, dance and music, this performance emphasized the struggle for equal rights and honored lives that made a radical change in the city of Greensboro.

This performance highlighted the Woolworth's Sit-In (1960), the Dudley Uprising/ A&T Student Revolt (1969), and the Nazi/Klan versus the Communist Workers Party (1979).

A&T received a grant from the Greensboro Bicentennial Commission Arts and Culture Grant Program for the performance. Its main focus is to bring diversity and education to others through visual and performing arts.

Many of those who played a part in the events were in the front row Friday night.

One person in particular was Dr. Claude Barnes, a then-Dudley High School student, who stepped out of his comfort zone in 1969 and helped begin a radical movement.

When school administration refused to allow Barnes to become student government president of his high school, he realized he was not going to be silent anymore.

"I believed that people should be treated for who they are and when they didn't

let the elections stand, I was in shock," Barnes said.

"I believed what the books said. America was a place for opportunity and I wasn't receiving that."

Barnes and other students walked out of class and were going to take a stand.

"Dudley/A&T Revolt was an issue of inequality, racial discrimination and an educational system that totally ignored the institution of blacks. We knew we had been mistreated and we had to do the thing we felt needed to be just," he said.

Dance was a big part of "Bullet Holes in the Wall." Donna Bradby, director of visual and performing arts, said these dance scenes could be viewed in many different ways.

"The great part of these pieces is that you're able to determine it anyway you want."

Dr. Eleanor Gwynn, chairwoman and dance program coordinator for the Department of Visual and Performing Arts, was the artistic director and choreographer for the dance piece in "Bullet Holes."

"I was not trying to make it literal. That's almost like retelling events. I am a choreographer... to me I included enough of the elements [through dance] that without words, it would still carry out the motive."

One dance scene in "Bullet Holes," reflected the community and the hope that healing would begin and there would become a resolution for inequality as everyone came together dancing in live movements in a circle.

Emotion swept across the audience as the performance ended with each dancer asking the audience a question: "Why?"

Through monologue scenes, the emphasis was on how society informed news on what society wanted to hear. Chris Berry, a senior theater major from Long Island, N.Y., played a white reporter explaining his reasoning why he wrote what he wrote.

"I was the piece that exemplified the part of society where 'we give the nation the news they want to hear' [a piece of the monologue]...and that's what I was doing. As a reporter, it's an obligation to give the news, but not everybody wants the truth."

Through the reporter's monologue, he is confronted by blacks and questioned why he won't speak the real truth.

"The reporter wanted to reach out, but knew there would be consequences and it may jeopardize his job," Berry said.

An original music piece, "Requiem for the Fallen," was composed by Mondre Moffett, an assistant professor in the music program and performed by the Jazz Ensemble, receiving a standing ovation.

Throughout the performance, there was also a screen display of actual scenes and re-created footage from the historical events.

A piece of "Bullet Holes in the Wall: A Reflection of Acts of Courage in the Struggle for Liberation," will be performed April 5 at the Spring Dance Recital.

For more information contact (336) 256-2137.

## AROUND GREENSBORO

# Have your cake and eat it too

## Bakery turned restaurant offers sweet treats

KAREN THOMPSON  
Contributor

If you are looking for a place to take that someone special, or just somewhere to go to indulge your sweet tooth, Ganache can fulfill your needs.

This upscale bakery and restaurant located on North Elm Street, is by far the best bakery that I've ever set foot in. Ganache was first established in 1990 as a bakery, and in 2001, they added a restaurant.

As soon as I walked in, I knew that I was in for a treat. Glass cases were lined all around the front counter holding at least 100 cakes, pies, cookies, tarts, etc. I already have a major sweet tooth, so I was ready for whatever they had to offer. The only problem was me. I was beyond myself as to what I wanted to taste, so the manager, Amy Thompson, literally had to walk me through it. I was in the zone, and I think she knew it, but it probably wasn't anything that she hadn't seen before.

All I could see was lots and lots of sugar. They all looked so delectable, and had the most beautiful designs and colors that could easily tempt anyone to go overboard. I tried Amaretto Cheese Cake, Chocolate Madness Cake, Black Cow Cake, and All-American Chocolate Cookies for me to try. My eyes almost popped out, because I didn't think that she would pile up a whole plate.

As I found a comfortable spot in the corner of the restaurant, I realized how beautiful the place was on the inside. While I was eating, the spacious brown wooden floors, crème colored walls with lavish paintings of the best wine and dim studio lighting invited me to grab a seat and daydream about traveling to a country farm, or to Italy.

The great thing about Ganache is that they cater for special events such as weddings, and baby showers and they sale



PHOTO BY MICHELA EDWARDS • REGISTER

**BLACK COW** a dense chocolate cake layered with cream cheese icing placed with a glass of Zinfandel Wine

wedding cakes along with other specialized desserts on their menu.

After eating the desserts, the manager brought me a cup of soup that had a weird name, but a taste that is like, "Wow!" "She Crab" soup was just what I needed to balance the sugar taste in my mouth. This soup has bits of crab and is immersed in a creamy cheese flavored sauce, that is sure to become any cheese and crabmeat lover's favorite.

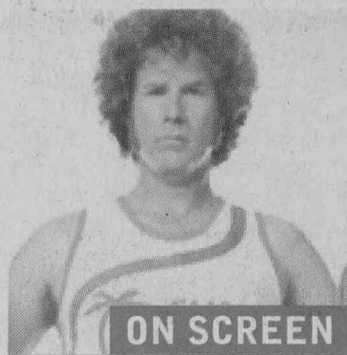
For the wine lovers, Ganache serves around 30 different bottles of wine that come from all over the world. I had the chance to taste their Red Zinfandel from Pomona, California. It was very smooth and had a rich taste.

The prices at Ganache are very reasonable. For a slice of cake, pie, or any other dessert, the prices range from \$1.25-\$3.25, and they also sale whole cakes, along with cookies, éclairs, lemon squares, rum balls, and tartlets by the dozen, to make any event, or gift very special.

For the ones that are a little skeptical about visiting, more information can be found at [www.ganachebakery.com](http://www.ganachebakery.com), and for those like me who are serious dessert lovers, and are ready to dive in, Ganache Bakery can be found on 403 North Elm Street. Go ahead, and try out these wonderful desserts, but don't say I didn't warn you.

Feb. 27 to Mar. 4

The A&T Register's guide to what's going on this week in arts and entertainment.



ON SCREEN

**SEMI-PRO** stars Will Ferrell as Jackie Moon, the player-owner of a 1970's basketball team who finds out that his team may be one of four teams absorbed by the NBA, only problem is, his team really sucks. Expect large doses of Ferrell hilarity and look out for a supporting casts that includes the likes of Outkast's Andre 3000 and Mr. White Men Can't Jump, Woody Harrelson. Semi-Pro opens in theaters on Friday.

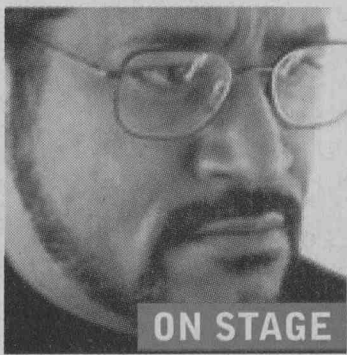
- M.M.



ON SHELVES

**ERYKAH BADU** is back with her new album called "Amerykah Badu" that hit stores Tuesday. Featuring the hit single "Honey," which has a colorful and creative video. The Grammy Award winning artist brings another insightful album with 11 tracks filled with the sound of funk and soul. Songs such as, "Telephone" you can groove to and "Soldier" you can nod to.

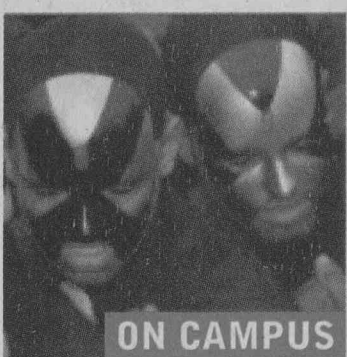
- A.T.



ON STAGE

**MICHAEL ERIC DYSON** brings his unique political commentary to UNCG's EUC Cone Ballroom, Wednesday at 7 p.m. As seen on BET's America vs. Hip Hop, a discussion on the state of Hip Hop will take place. You must have a ticket to attend this program.

- A.T.



ON CAMPUS

**PROBATE WEEK** starts Friday in Moore Gym from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Come see who is new to Greek Life as the organizations bring out their new members in this annual celebration.

- A.T.

# 20 QUESTIONS

1. Why are all the news stories about saving money? 2. Is it me or are Americans just broke? 3. Have we moved beyond the too small V-Neck shirt stage of urban fashion? 4. Did you know Andre 3000 had a clothing line coming out? 5. Do you think it will have blonde wigs and shoulder pads in it like the Rosa Parks video? 6. Do all the people buying Coogi realize FUBU owns them? 7. And that Samsung owns both clothing lines? 8. Anybody else have no clue what's going on, on campus? 9. Are our student representatives to blame? 10. Does anybody even know who their class president? 11. Why are all the probates on one day? 12. Are you officially a "Greek Groupie" if you sit through six hours of probates? 13. What do you think the Ques stepped to before Atomic Dog? 14. Can WSSU really be happy about beating us without Steven Rush? 15. Why is the last home game during spring break? 16. Don't they know half the Aggies are in Miami? 17. That is our favorite spot, right? 18. Anybody else want to be like David Banner when they grow up? 19. Who would win in a snap contest, David Banner or Al Sharpton? 20. What's worse, the booty songs or a slicked back perm? **SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK! REGISTER@NCAT.EDU**